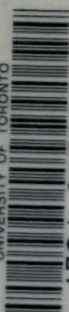


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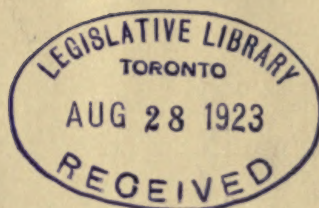
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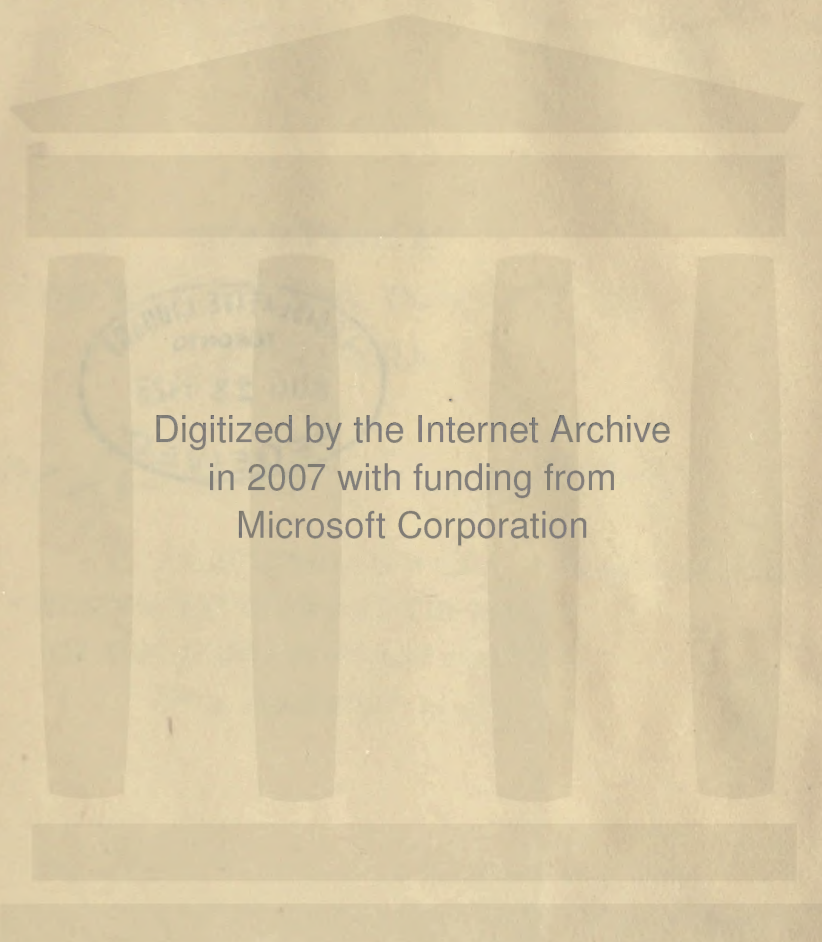
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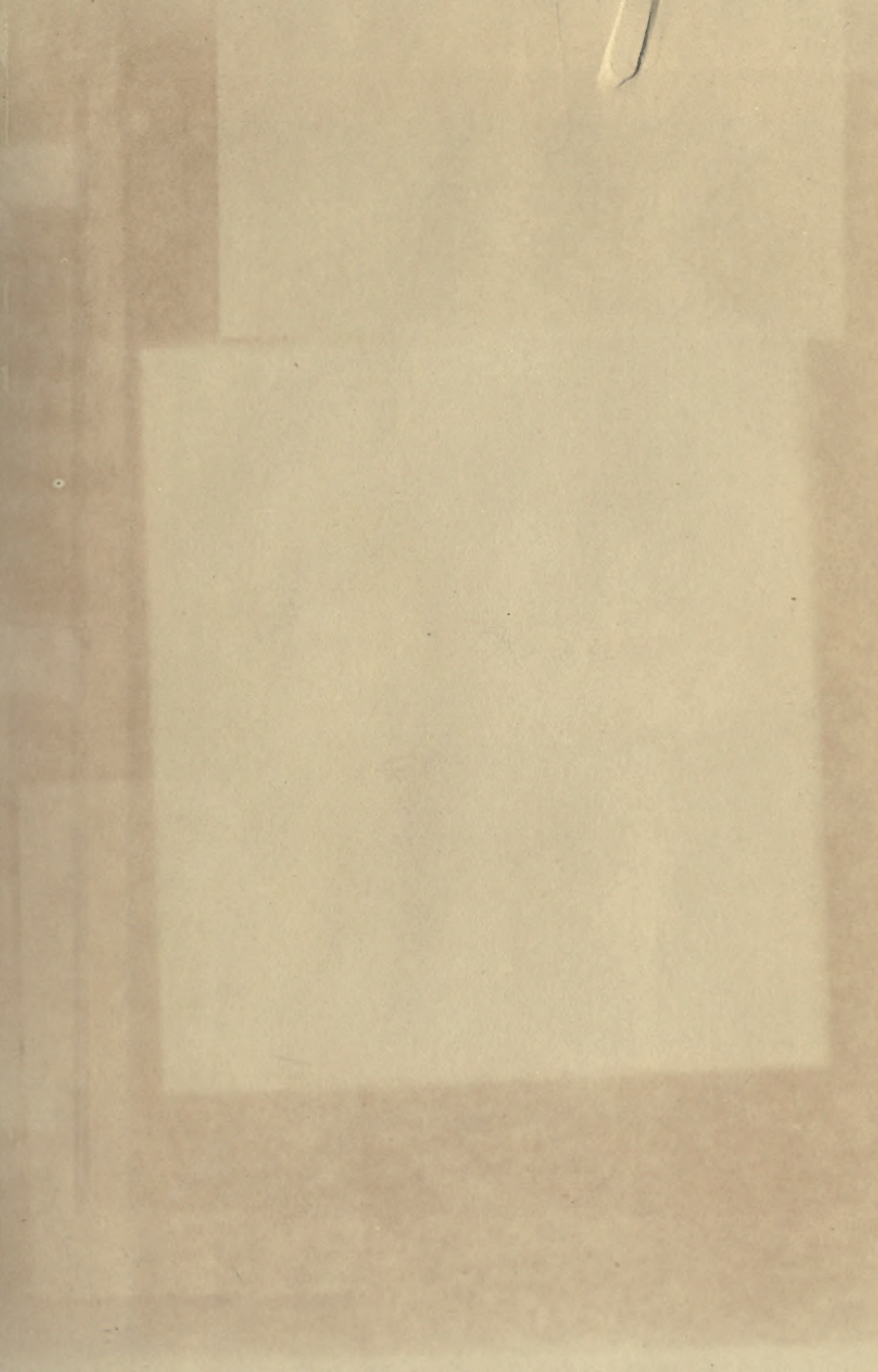
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HISTORY  
OF THE  
CUTLERS' COMPANY  
OF  
LONDON

556

AND OF THE MINOR CUTLERY CRAFTS  
WITH BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF  
EARLY LONDON CUTLERS

BY CHARLES WELCH F.S.A.

Master of the Company 1907-8



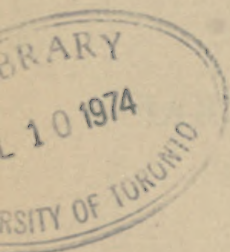
VOL. I

FROM EARLY TIMES TO THE YEAR 1500

PRINTED PRIVATELY FOR THE  
CUTLERS' COMPANY

LONDON

1916



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LONDON:  
BLADES, EAST & BLADES,  
PRINTERS,  
23, ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.



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## PREFACE.

**T**HE Cutlers' Company will reach the quincentenary of its incorporation on the fourth of December in the present year, and this anniversary seems an appropriate opportunity for putting upon record some account of its history. The Court of the Company have made a generous provision for the adequate production of such a work, as regards both its compass and illustration, and the following pages are the result.

A few words in explanation of the plan of the work may be desirable. With the exception of the splendid series of accounts of the last half of the fifteenth century the Company possesses no early records, and the archives of the Guildhall, the Public Record Office, and other ancient repositories, are the only available sources for the early history of the Company. These sources yield historical information of great value, such as ordinances and other official records, taking back the Company's history another century, to the reign of Edward III. They also furnish abundant personal details concerning London cutlers of still earlier times; information which throws much light upon the condition and organisation of the Company at a remote period, and forms the basis of the earlier portion of this work.

The present volume extends to the year 1500, but it has occasionally been found convenient to trespass into the sixteenth century. Illustrative documents, transcribed in full with translations where necessary, are printed as Evidences in the Appendix, the contractions being extended where the sense is clear. References in the text to the *folio* or *membrane* of records indicate a personal examination of the original; when information is obtained from a printed source the reference is to *volume* and *page*. Foot-notes have been avoided as far as possible. Personally I find them wearisome, and prefer to endure interruptions in the text by the insertion of references. It has not been possible to link up all the references to an individual or an event, but this will be remedied by the index.

I have considered it no part of my task to treat of the Guild system generally, nor to refer to the history of other Companies except for the purpose of comparison with that of the Cutlers' Company and its subsidiary crafts. The large quantity of matter available for the proper presentation of the Company's history imposes the duty of strictly confining the scope of the work to its immediate object.

It may be considered that the interesting series of the early accounts of the Company should have been printed in full. A minute analysis of them is given in chapter IV, and further classified extracts, with a transcript of the accounts for 1442-3 and 1497-8, appear among the Evidences in the Appendix. The above treatment has, I hope and believe, brought out all the facts of permanent value; the remainder consists of much



repetition and minor details such as workmen's wages, prices of materials, etc., of which sufficient examples appear in the two printed accounts.

For much generous help in the present volume I have to thank Mr. S. C. Ratcliff of the Public Record Office, Mr. F. J. Craker, of the Records Department, Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, the Rev. Canon Leigh H. Nixon, Librarian and Precentor of Westminster Abbey, and Dr. Scott, Editor of the Westminster Abbey Records.

Thanks are also due to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster for permission to reproduce the seal of William Billok, and to the Corporation Library Committee for permission to make the facsimile facing page 118. To Miss Calthrop I am much indebted for her valuable assistance.

*Michaelmas Day, 1916.*

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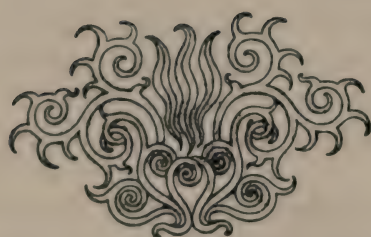
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Facsimile of a portion of the Company's earliest roll of accounts. A.D. 1442-3	- - - - -	" p. 147
Map showing the site of old Cutlers' Hall in Cloak Lane, formerly Horseshoe Bridge Street. From Ogilby and Morgan's Map of London. A.D. 1677	- - - - -	" p. 161
Portrait of Mistress Margaret Craythorne, wife of John Craythorne, a worthy benefactor of the Company. From the original at Cutlers' Hall. A.D. 1568	- - - - -	" p. 213

## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

Page 139, line 27. *For* "Pervenir a bonne foy" *read* "Pervener  
a bonn foy."

Page 163, last line but two. *After* Paviors' Company *dele* v. 1.

Page 273, line 8. *Add* (*Rolls of Parliament*, v. 3, p. 519 b.).



# HISTORY OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY.

## CHAPTER I.

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE END OF THE  
FOURTEENTH CENTURY.



THE art of the cutler has consisted from the earliest ages in the making of edged weapons and tools. The word *cutler* is derived from the Latin *cultellarius* through the Old French *coutelier* (L. *cultellus*, O.F. *coutel*, a knife), and signifies a maker or seller of knives or other cutting instruments. In the remote Stone Age the earliest cutlers worked in stone and flint, probably also in wood and bone. They shaped the flint knives and scrapers used in pre-historic times for flaying animals killed in the chase and preparing them for food, and for various other purposes to supply the simple needs of those early times. The knife was a first necessity for uncivilised races and is found among the earliest evidences of human existence, long before pottery and other arts arose. The pre-historic cutler also wrought those beautiful highly-polished and sharp-edged flints, known as *celts*, which were used as battle-axes or hatchets for warlike or domestic purposes. In succeeding ages stone was gradually superseded, first by bronze and afterwards by iron and steel, as the chief material for the cutler's art. From a consideration of the above facts it may safely be asserted that the mystery of cutlery is one of the most ancient of all human industries. Examples of the London neolithic cutler's art, brought to light by archaeological discovery, show a

Prehistoric  
Cutlery.

fine combination of utility and beauty. The personality of these ancient craftsmen, and that of their successors for many a generation, is lost in oblivion : only their work remains.

London  
Cutlery.

Coming down to historic times we find, as might be expected, cutlery flourishing as a trade in London from the earliest period. Cutlery appears as a distinct craft in the reign of Richard I, and the following chapter contains notices of many early cutlers who flourished in the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries. Among them were prominent citizens, such as Jordan le Coteler and Salomon le Cotiller, each of whom served the offices of alderman and sheriff, the former being one of the earliest known aldermen of the City. Earlier still are the records of Adam the Cutler and Thomas le Cotiller who lived in the 12th century and flourished in the reigns of Richard I and John. The London cutlers of this period were men of substance, and their careers show that cutlery was a thriving industry in ancient London. These personal particulars, which are the only source of information for our subject before the 14th century, largely help to lift the veil which enshrouds the early history of the Cutlers' Company, in common with that of the rest of the City Guilds.

Notable  
early  
Cutlers.

The Mystery.

How far back the Company existed as an organised Craft it is impossible to say, but conclusive proof exists that the Cutlers were firmly established as a recognised body in London in the 13th century. Admission to the Craft and to the City freedom by apprenticeship was then in full vogue, the earliest instance recorded being that of John son of Saman the knife-smith who was apprenticed to Stephen atte Holte, cutler, in 1287. (See p. 69.) The above entry in the City records exhibits apprenticeship even at this early date as a well-established custom, and there is little doubt that if written records existed we should be able to trace the existence of apprenticeship in the Cutlers' Craft for generations or even centuries earlier. Further proof of the existence in the 13th century of some kind

Origin lost in  
Antiquity.



of organisation among the London cutlers is found in the curious account of William de Laufare's guardianship of Robert Deumars described on p. 55. On resigning his trust in 1291 the large sum remaining in his hands, for which with the interest he rendered a satisfactory account, amounted to £42 *in money of the cutlers*. The expression is tantalising; it tells us much, but not enough. The idea that a special currency was in use among the cutlers must be dismissed in the absence of any other evidence for its support. The only probable solution appears to be that the "money of the cutlers" was the collective property of the Craft, of which William de Laufare was a very influential member. Another important piece of evidence comes from the *Inquisitiones post mortem* of Edward I's reign, in which mention is made under the year 1285-6 of "a house of the Cutlers" opposite the Conduit. This locality was known as "The Cutlery," and is discussed more fully in subsequent pages. Many leading members of the trade lived here, and the "house of the Cutlers" in their midst is the first Cutlers' Hall of which any record exists. The long-standing controversy between the Cutlers' and Goldsmiths' Misteries, dealt with in a later chapter (see pp. 107-110), seems to have been in active progress at the close of the reign of Edward I, or the early part of that of his successor, if the date assigned to an undated petition from the Cutlers' Mistery to one or other of these sovereigns is correct.

"Money of the Cutlers."

"The Cutlery."

We reach surer ground in 1328 when seven prominent cutlers were elected by their fellows and sworn before the Mayor and Aldermen at Guildhall for the government and instruction of the Mistery.\* This, perhaps the first direct mention

Craft Rulers.

\* The Cutlers appear in a list of twenty-five Misteries whose Rulers were "elected and sworn for the government and instruction of the same." (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 232-4.) The list includes ten of the chief Companies (the Salters and Clothworkers omitted), eight minor Companies, and the following Crafts which did not long survive separately: Beaders, Cappers, Cofferers, Corders, Hosiers, Fusters, and Cheesemongers. Seven years before (in 1321) the City had petitioned the King for authority "to govern the Misteries and redress defaults therein according to ancient usage" (*Ibid.* p. 43), and this summons of the Rulers of the Misteries to be sworn at the Guildhall seems to have been one of the first steps taken to obtain a more effective control over the growing power of the Misteries.

Earliest  
known  
Rulers.

of the Mistery, is found in the City archives, but the elections must have taken place before this date and were probably held afterwards more frequently than appears from the City books. For how many years or centuries before 1328 the Mistery of Cutlers had been governed by its elected rulers no one can tell, but this simple form of government doubtless came down from much earlier times. The succession of rulers (variously described as Masters, Wardens, Supervisors, etc.), so far as they are furnished by the records at Guildhall, will be found on p. 242, and such biographical details as can be gathered concerning them appear in the next chapter. The rulers seem to have been chosen from the leading men of the Craft, many of them appearing again and again in the list. The tenure of office may have been at first for a term of years, but from 1372 onwards the elections were practically yearly. The second recorded admission to office was in 1340, when the eight men sworn include two of the rulers of 1328-9, viz. Geoffrey le Cotiller (or de Gedelestone) and William atte Gate. Their duties (as variously described when sworn into office at Guildhall) were to govern and instruct the Mistery and to safeguard its property. In practice these duties included also binding apprentices, admission of freemen, searches for defective ware, defending the interests of the Craft, and assisting the Mayor and Aldermen in determining trade disputes.

Articles of  
1344.

In 1344 the Mistery received the sanction of the Mayor and Aldermen to certain "Articles" which legally invested their Rulers with powers of control over the Craft which they had hitherto exercised by prescription only. This important ordinance, printed at length on pp. 237-9, provides for the election of certain persons of the trade of cutlery "by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen and by assent of the Cutlers" to supervise the Articles which follow. Power is given to the Supervisors to "search and make assay of all manner of

Powers of  
Search.



cutlery," and to seize and bring before the Mayor and Aldermen such false work as they may find; the penalties were for the first offence 40 pence, for the second half a mark, for the third 10 shillings, and for the fourth to forswear the trade. No Master or Warden shall unjustly support any offending person, of whatsoever condition he may be, to the hurt of the folks of the said Mistery, under the penalty of half a mark payable to the Chamber for each offence. The next provision gives an interesting glance at the social relations existing between master cutlers and their servants in Edward III's reign. "No cutler shall make any common sale on Sundays; seeing that their journeymen and their apprentices have wasted and purloined the property of their masters, while they have been attending at their parish churches, or elsewhere." This provision against Sunday trading is curiously worded, and seems to base the restriction not on religious grounds, but on the apprentices' bad conduct of the business during their masters' absence. Then follow the time-honoured rules for a seven years' apprenticeship, and forbidding those not free of the City to keep shop or take an apprentice. The next clause affords cutlers the choice of being judged in matters touching the trade by the Mayor and Aldermen instead of by their own Wardens. The order which follows, prohibiting work by night, though based on the necessity for oversight and assay by the Wardens, may have been partly due to trade jealousy and intended to limit the output of the more enterprising craftsmen. (The Sheathers' Company had a similar provision in their ordinances of 1326-7.) The last regulation, common to the ordinances of every Craft, forbids masters to entice away "alowes"\* and apprentices from the service of

Penalties for false work.

Sunday trading.

Night work.

\* Described in the "Articles" as Lowyz, that is Alowys or Alowes. This term was applied to workmen who had duly served their apprenticeship and had been admitted to the freedom, but were either not yet entitled to set up shop for themselves or were prevented from so doing by want of means or some other cause. These last, with the apprentices, were the workmen of the more prosperous cutlers. They formed the great bulk of the Yeomanry of the Company, but were never

Supervisors.

other cutlers. Nine leading men of the trade were elected "to supervise and keep" the above Articles, but within little more than five years (as appears from a note following the Articles) all these Wardens were dead, and in November, 1349, six others were appointed in their stead.

Increased  
authority of  
the Misteries.

The growing power of the London Misteries in the middle of the 14th century is seen in an ordinance of the Mayor and Aldermen passed in 1364 (*see* pp. 247-8) which strengthened the authority of those bodies over their trades, and imposed severe penalties upon rebellious and refractory members of the Crafts. The penalty for these offenders was both imprisonment and fine (the latter payable to the City), and the punishment was severely increased on each repetition of the offence. This important ordinance is entered in the City books (*Letter-Book G*, f. 135b) in Norman French, was transcribed by John Carpenter into the *Liber Albus*\*, and appears in quaint old English in the *Jury Book* of the Pewterers' Company.†

Rules of the  
Fraternity.

Some valuable information concerning the Craft of Cutlers is given in the code of rules of its sister Fraternity promulgated in 1370 (pp. 249-254). These Rules deal mainly with the religious and social duties and privileges of the brethren, but are also concerned with the Mystery and trade of Cutlery. We find the old provision against enticing apprentices and other workmen from their employers. A livery was also to be worn by the brethren of the Fraternity, although no mention can be found of any such regulation for the men of the Mystery at this period.

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"called" to the Livery; the great majority of apprentices, after serving as alowes or journeymen for a few years, received licence to open shop and were in due course admitted to the Livery. The meaning of the word, derived from the Latin through the Old French, is a "hireling" or paid servant: "Alowe, alowys (O.F. *al(l)ouy*, prop. *alouys*; L. *allocaticium*, one whose attribute it is to be hired, *allocatus*. (The final -s was in 14 c. Fr. occ. treated as a pl. inflexion, and so with *allowes* in Eng.) A hired servant, a hireling." (Murray's *New Eng. Dict.* s.v.)

\* Rolls edition, *Riley*, 1859, p. 494.

† History, *Welch*, i, p. 8.



Merchant  
Cutlers.

Of still greater interest is the provision for the relief of brethren who were sufferers from "storm at sea." Many of the London cutlers were merchants carrying on trade beyond the seas. In 1416, nearly fifty years later, the Company's first charter was granted by the King to relieve the great poverty and need of "many men of the Mistery of Cutlers of our City of London by misfortune at sea and other unfortunate chances." These merchant cutlers may have been importers of ivory for sword-handles, or may have exported or imported cutlery, but as wholesale dealers they were not obliged to confine themselves to their own or any particular trade. From ancient, probably the remotest, times the freemen of London were privileged to deal wholesale in whatever merchandise they pleased, but were obliged when selling by retail to keep strictly to the wares of their particular craft. In 1364 the Commonalty presented a petition to the Mayor and Aldermen for the enforcement of this right and of other privileges which the City freemen had long enjoyed. Their claim as wholesale traders was thus defined:—"That every freeman of the City may cross the sea with any kind of merchandise he likes and bring back to the City any merchandise he likes, so that no one sell any kind of merchandise by retail except that which belongs to his mistery, but only in gross." (*Letter-Book G*, pp. xi-xii, 179, 187.)

Wholesale  
dealers.

The control of London cutlery was found no easy matter, for in January, 1379-80, less than 36 years after the passing of the "Articles," a more extensive code of Ordinances was devised by the Craft and received the sanction of the Mayor and Aldermen (pp. 258-263). The object of these ordinances was to strengthen the authority of the Rulers or Overseers. It is evident that the "Articles" of 1344 had been more or less a dead-letter, and that the great merchant-cutlers of the day had set them at naught. A more definite standard of manufacture,

Ordinances  
of 1379-80.

both in materials and workmanship, was also required. It was therefore ordained that knife-handles of silver should be of sterling quality, and that handles of wood should not be coloured but sold in their natural state. Journeymen who had not served seven years at their trade within the City were to be tested by the Overseers as to their skill, and their wages fixed by the Overseers accordingly. No master might give wages higher than the sum so fixed until the journeyman should have learned to deserve more. It was forbidden to take cutlery out of the City for sale before it had been "viewed" by the Overseers. No one, either himself *or by his people*, was allowed to follow the trade within the City, if he would not submit himself to the Overseers. (This was probably intended to bring the wealthier men of the Craft, and outsiders, under control.) Cutlers were obliged to sell their wares at their houses or shops, and were forbidden to take them to "Evechepynges" or to hostelries. All the good folks of the trade were to assemble each year to choose their Overseers for the following year, under penalty for not attending the summons of the Overseers. A penalty of 6s. 8d., payable to the Chamberlain, was inflicted for default as regards any one of the Articles. Overseers were also to pay a similar penalty for neglect of any part of their duty, but they were to receive a third part of the fines levied for defaults by them presented. No man could be made free by redemption except on testimony of his ability by the four Wardens and other two reputable men of the trade. The Wardens were granted the assistance of a Serjeant of the Chamber to help them when necessary in the execution of their duties. Power was reserved to the Mayor and Aldermen to amend the Articles for the common profit, and to redress any complaints of those wrongfully aggrieved under the said Articles.

Knife-handles.

Fixed wages.

Sale at markets forbidden.

Redemption-ers restricted.

Constitution of the Mistery.

Under these Ordinances the Mistery was placed on a firmer basis. The election of Wardens or Overseers (if the



City books present a complete record) had previously been at irregular intervals. (See pp. 242-3.) There is a gap between the Supervisors of the "Articles" appointed in 1349 and the Wardens elected in 1372. The next election was in 1375, and it was then biennial until 1380, when in accordance with the new Ordinances it became annual and so continued for some years. The number of Wardens was reduced to four, and so remained. All the members of the Craft had a voice in the election of Wardens, and the power of these officers was more strictly defined and much strengthened. Submission to them and to the Ordinances was imposed upon everyone seeking to enter the trade; penalties were inflicted for disobedience to their awards, and their authority was upheld by the services of a Serjeant of the Chamber. A modest recompense for their responsible and exacting duties was allowed them out of the fines imposed for the faults they presented. On the other hand (and no doubt as a precaution against the use of authority for private ends) cutlers whose goods were seized as "deceitful" were allowed an appeal against the decision of the Wardens, and those officials themselves were liable to fine for the wrongful discharge or neglect of their duties. The Wardens met probably at the "house of the Cutlers" in the Poultry, near where the Hall of the Mercers' Company now stands. Here they transacted their every-day business, whilst the annual gathering of the Mistery was held either at one of the Monastic houses or at one of the larger taverns in the City.\* The Wardens may have had the assistance of a beadle, although the "Ordinances" seem to place on them personally the duty of summoning the reputable men of the Craft to the annual election. Neither the "Ordinances" nor the earlier "Articles" mention such an official, but the explanation may lie (as

Election of  
Wardens.

Authority of  
the Wardens.

Place of  
Meeting.

An official.

\* In the 15th century the Pewterers' Company held their meetings for devotion at the Grey Friars, and their business and festive gatherings at the Friars Austin. (Welch, *History of the Pewterers' Company*, v. I, p. 26.)

suggested later, on p. 17) in the close connection between the Mistery and the Fraternity and the probable employment of one official to serve both bodies. The constitution of the Mistery was of the simplest kind ; it consisted of a large body of freemen governed by Rulers or Wardens elected by themselves. Within this body was a select class of the " good and substantial persons of the said trade " from whom the Wardens were chosen and who assisted those officers with their experience in adjudicating upon goods seized as false and deceitful.

The  
Apprentice.

In apprenticeship we may perhaps find the germ of the constitution of the Misteries, and possibly of the City's own constitution. It is the most ancient civic institution known to us, and formed the well-worn avenue to the freedom both of the Mistery and the City. It gave rise to the formalities connected with the creation of citizenship, and on these again rests the whole fabric of civic self-government. For apprenticeship was incumbent upon the sons of all citizens whatever their degree, patrimony being of later date, and redemption both costly and strictly limited. Freemen were obliged by their oath not to take an apprentice for a term of less than seven years, and the rule is inserted in the " Articles " of the Cutlers of 1344. The chief concern of the Mistery with the apprentice was to teach him his trade. Masters were forbidden to reveal trade secrets to any but their apprentices, and were obliged to work in their shops out of the public gaze. They were allowed to " turn over " an apprentice from one to another, by consent of the Mistery, but were forbidden to entice away apprentices from other freemen. The City's concern was to turn the apprentice into a good citizen, this important duty devolving upon the Chamberlain. The apprentice was " presented " and " bound " not only before the Wardens of his Mistery but afterwards in the presence of the Chamberlain at Guildhall, where the binding was duly recorded. Here too

Relation to  
the Mistery.

Relation to  
the City.



were heard, in final appeal, all disputes between masters and apprentices, the Chamberlain having power to commit to prison unruly apprentices. On completion of the indentures, his master certifying his faithful service, the young man was admitted to the freedom both of his Mistery and of the City, thus becoming a duly qualified citizen and cutler of London. Very intimate were the relations between a master and his apprentice, the latter being of the household and almost one of the family. Much trust was necessarily reposed in the young men who, like Richard Whittington the famous Mercer, usually deserved well of their masters. In the "Articles" of 1344, however, the apprentices are charged with wasting and stealing goods, when left with the journeymen on Sundays in charge of their masters' shops. On the other hand we find in 1349 a touching instance of personal regard between a master and his apprentice as shown in the will of John Frank, an apprentice, who left a bequest and the residue of his estate to his former master, Richard Kyssere, cutler, who survived him only a few months (p. 86).

Relation to  
his Master.

Apprenticeship was not only the oldest, but the principal mode of obtaining the Freedom. There were, however, three other modes by which a man might become free of the Mistery. From the earliest times the Freedom was occasionally conferred by *gift*, but the recipients were usually ecclesiastics, benefactors to the Craft, or persons of distinction. At a much later date arose the practice of obtaining the Freedom by *patrimony*, that is in right of having been born the son of a freeman. In 1364 the Mayor and Aldermen, in compliance with a petition from the citizens *generally*, formally conceded this privilege to those who, being of full age, could prove that they were born free. (*Letter-Book G*, pp. 179-180.) Previous to this time freemen by patrimony had been subjected to certain disqualifications, unless admitted also either by apprenticeship or

The  
Freedom.

Freedom by  
Patrimony.

Sanctioned  
in 1364.

Effect of  
patrimony.

redemption. The effect of patrimony was to increase the number of members of the Mistery who either followed no trade or who followed some trade other than cutlery. This led not only to "translations," *i.e.* formal transference of a craftsman from one Mistery to another, but (as will be seen later) to frequent differences between the Cutlers and other Misteries.

Freedom by  
Redemption.

The last mode of obtaining the Freedom was by *redemption*, that is by an act of grace on the part of the Mistery and the City, and on payment of a substantial fee or fine. The freedom could only be *claimed* by apprentices or sons of freemen under the conditions above mentioned. The Mayor and Aldermen could, however, order the enrolment in the Mistery of any cutler whom they had admitted by redemption to the City freedom, but it is not clear whether the Mistery could without direction or permission from the City admit strangers to its membership by redemption. The Ordinances of 1379-1380 provide "that no man shall be enfranchised by redemption in the said trade, except on the testimony as to his ability of six reputable men of the trade; that is to say the four Wardens and other two reputable men of the trade." As the Wardens were not to *decide* but to *testify*, this order seems to show that the power to admit by redemption rested absolutely with the City authorities at Guildhall. The applicants for the Cutlers' freedom by redemption were (almost without exception) cutlers from the country or from foreign parts who desired to settle in London. The earliest instance is that of Adam of Thaxted who opened shop in Cheap ward, probably in the Cutlery, in January or February, 1309-10 (p. 71). In July following, William Fyniel of Windsor, a sword-smith, was admitted, and in March, 1311-1312, Robert of "Gypeswic" (Ipswich) came to London to carry on his trade as cutler (p. 75). In each of the above instances the applicant appears to have been first admitted by redemption to the City freedom, being

City's sanc-  
tion required

Country  
cutlers  
admitted.



afterwards enrolled in the Mistery of Cutlers. The following incident throws valuable light upon the conditions under which the freedom by redemption was procurable at the close of the 14th century. On 12th November, 1382, William Warde, cutler, of York, complained of one John Foxtone whom he had asked to assist him in being admitted and becoming a freeman of the trade of Cutlers in London. Foxtone promised to do this, but afterwards "deceitfully" caused him to be admitted into another trade, namely that of the Bladers; for doing which he received of the said William about 6 marks, alleging that he had given half a mark to a certain Alderman and half a mark to a certain clerk that they might help him in being admitted to the freedom aforesaid, and that he had also paid 60 shillings to the Chamberlain of the City for obtaining the same; whereas he had paid no more than 20 shillings and had so deceived the Court; seeing that, according to his means, the same William would have had to pay 60 shillings. For this offence, and for his false accusation against the Alderman, Foxtone was sentenced by the Court of Aldermen to be fined and imprisoned, but the latter punishment was remitted upon his finding sureties for his good behaviour under a penalty of 100 pounds. (*Memorials*, pp. 474-5.) It seems likely that by Bladers is here meant Bladesmiths, an allied Craft of the Cutlers; the point will be discussed more fully later. (*See* pp. 35-6.)

Freedom  
fraudulently  
obtained.

The offence  
punished.

The jealousy of the citizens as to the admission of strangers by redemption was forcibly shown in December, 1312, when the Mayor himself, accompanied by several Aldermen and good men of the Commonalty of every Mistery, came to the Guildhall and submitted to the Court of Mayor and Aldermen certain grievances with their proposals for remedying them. The two last proposals ran as follows:—Item. Forasmuch as the City ought always to be governed by the aid of men engaged in trade and handicrafts, and whereas it was anciently accustomed

Protest  
against ad-  
mission of  
strangers.

that no stranger, native or foreign, whose position and character were unknown, should be admitted to the freedom of the City until the merchants and craftsmen whose business he wished to enter had previously certified the Mayor and Aldermen of his position and trustworthiness, the whole Commonalty pray that such observance may be strictly kept for the future as regards the wholesale trades and handicrafts. Item. Complaint was made to the Mayor and Aldermen that John Simeon, a draper and merchant stranger, had been admitted to the freedom by favour of certain great men and contrary to the will of the good men of the mistery. The whole Commonalty pray that he may be ousted from the freedom. And the said John came and willingly disclaimed and surrendered to the Mayor the freedom so acquired. The same was done touching Hugh Trippe, valet to the said John Simeon. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 13-14.)

Strangers dis-  
franchised.

Journeyman.

The freemen thus admitted to their full privileges as craftsmen and citizens were not all of equal standing. It is probable that every freeman was obliged after his apprenticeship to serve for one year as a journeyman before being allowed to set up for himself; such was the rule in after times. Special supervision was prescribed by the Ordinances of 1379-80 over journeymen cutlers who had not served an apprenticeship to the trade. Such men were required to be examined, and the rate of their wages was fixed according to their ability. Some workmen, lacking energy or capital or both, remained journeymen all their lives, still retaining, however, their membership of the Mistery and a large share of its privileges. The great majority of the new freemen opened shop as cutlers in due course and used their right to take apprentices. It is probable that some kind of distinctive dress or livery was worn by all the members of the Cutlers' Mistery, as well as by the members of the allied Fraternity, but there is no trace of a special *grade* of liverymen at this early period.

Test of  
ability.

Livery.









Women cutlers are much in evidence. Widows took over the apprentices of their late husbands and carried on the business with the assistance of journeymen and apprentices. The two following instances are of interest. Lady Agnes "le Cotiller" was highly assessed in Walbrook ward to the subsidy granted to Edward II in 1318-1319 (p. 73). In 1340, Stephen Page, a cutler in the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury, bequeathed to his daughter Katherine (the wife of Robert Coteller) four marks and all his implements of the trade of "cotillerie," together with the remaining terms of Robert and John his apprentices (p. 84).

Craft-  
women.

We gain an insight into the early religious life of the Mistery from the Ordinances of the Fraternity with which it was associated. These are set forth in a valuable document preserved in the Public Record Office. It is the return made by the Fraternity of Cutlers in compliance with a writ issued on 1st November, 1388, to the Sheriffs of London requiring all Masters and Wardens of Guilds and Fraternities within the City to give an account of their foundation, privileges, ordinances, and property. The text of the writ is printed in Toulmin Smith's *Early English Gilds*, pp. 127-130. Very few of the returns have survived,\* but the document delivered in by the Cutlers is fortunately preserved among the Chancery miscellanea in the Public Record Office. In addition to the facsimile reproduction of the document (facing this page), a transcript and translation of the French text are printed on pp. 249-254. The provisions of this interesting record may be briefly summarised as follows. A Fraternity was begun in the year 1370 by certain of the good folk of the Mistery of Cutlers of London, for the support of two lighted tapers before the image of our Lady in the church of the Annunciation called the Charterhouse in West Smithfield.

Religious  
and Social  
Life.

Fraternity of  
Cutlers.

Its  
Ordinances.

\* For many years the returns accessible in the Public Record Office included those of four Craft Guilds only, viz. the White Tawyers, Barbers, Cutlers, and Glovers. Several others, including those of the Carpenters, have since been found.

Every one admitted into the Fraternity must be of good fame and seemly bearing, and not addicted to quarrels or rioting. At the meetings held on the second Sunday after every quarter every one must attend to pay 6*d.* as his quarterage or be fined a pound of wax for absence, unless he be sick or out of town.

Livery worn.

The brethren must also attend yearly in their liveries to hear mass on the Feast of the Annunciation at the Charterhouse church and each offer a penny. They were to assemble again on the first Sunday after Trinity at the election feast, when two good and loyal men were to be elected as Masters of the Fraternity for the coming year. It was the duty of these two good men to make, with the money remaining from the two tapers, four torches and five tapers for the burial of brethren of the Fraternity or their wives. Each brother was obliged to attend the Placebo and Dirige and the five masses at such burials on penalty of a pound of wax in absence. Brethren who suffered

Election of Masters.

any sudden mischance from storm at sea, fire, or theft, were to be paid from the common box 10*d.* per week at each month's end. Disputes among the brethren were to be brought to the two Masters for settlement ; he that would not be so reconciled should not receive the brethren's support in going to law. None were to be received into the Fraternity except by general assent, and then only on the day of the general assembly. No brother was to follow any disgraceful calling on pain of imprisonment, nor to entice to his service the servant or apprentice of another.

Losses at sea, or by fire or theft, compensated.

Expulsion of evil-doers.

Any brother being rebellious, or of evil repute, or malevolent, was to be promptly dismissed from the Fraternity, nor readmitted until he made accord and amends. The penalty of dismissal also fell upon those who did not pay their quarterage or fines for absence from burials. The fees payable at the feast, viz. 2*s.* for a brother and 12*d.* for his wife, were not to be increased ; they were to include the repast on the election day, supper at night, and dinner on the morrow.



The Ordinances are signed by Thomas Ermelyn and Thomas Kyrketon, Masters of the Fraternity. Although the preamble declares that the Fraternity was begun in the year 1370, the last clause mentions by name two former Masters *in whose time* was laid down the contribution which each brother was to pay as his share towards the Feast. From this it is clear that the Fraternity existed, and in much the same form, previous to 1370. What took place in that year appears to have been a definite revision of its rules, with (perhaps) some degree of re-organisation. The two Masters of the Fraternity in 1370, Thomas Ermelyn and Thomas Kyrketon, were prominent members of the Mistery and are found in the list of its Rulers, and the greater part of the men of the Mistery were probably brethren of the Fraternity. The connection between the two bodies was of the closest character, and it is probable that as the Masters of the Fraternity were men of substantial position they had the paid services of a beadle. It would be his duty to summon the brethren to all meetings and religious services, to distribute new liveries, arrange the minor details of the feasts, visit the sick and the poor, and assist the Masters in collecting quarterage and in other various ways. Similar help, and to a larger extent, would be required by the Rulers of the Mistery, and it is very likely that an official was appointed to act as beadle in this double capacity. The objects aimed at by the two bodies were at once distinct and supplementary. Whilst the Mistery sought with the fullest authority to uphold a high standard of trade quality and workmanship, and to promote good feeling among cutlers, both masters and servants; so it was the special province of the Fraternity, by works of piety and charity, to promote the spiritual and social well-being of the brethren and their families.

An earlier Fraternity.

Connection with the Mistery.

Their functions compared.

The election ceremonies of the Fraternity were a curious mixture of devotion and feasting. The Ordinances mention

Election ceremonies.

a supper, a repast on the " day," and a dinner on the morrow. The supper took place on the eve of the Festival, after the attendance of the brethren at a solemn service to pray for the souls of deceased members of the Fraternity. The Festival on the following day began with an imposing procession of the brethren in their new liveries, preceded by the almsmen, to the Church of the Charterhouse, where an elaborate musical service was held and every one made his offering. The procession then returned to " a certain appointed place " where the Election Feast was to be held. Here the new Masters or Wardens were elected to rule the Fraternity for the coming year, after which the brethren and their wives sat down to a sumptuous repast usually followed by a play or some other entertainment. The proceedings of the following day were entirely of a business character ; the accounts of the late Masters were audited, quarterage was collected from the brethren, and the day's proceedings ended with a dinner presided over by the new Masters.

Election  
Feast.

Dedication  
of the  
Mistery.

Another important question upon which the Fraternity record throws valuable light is the Dedication of the Mistery. All the older London Guilds or Misteries have their patron Saints, upon whose Festival they elect new Master and Wardens for the coming year. The Patron Saint of the Cutlers' Company is not mentioned in the Company's charters or in any other of their records. There can be little doubt, however, that the Cutlers' Guild and Craft were dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the election of new officers having taken place at or near the Feast of the Holy Trinity from time immemorial. The Fraternity record prescribes " the first Sunday after Trinity " as the day for the election, and the Ordinances of the Mistery of 1379-80 require the newly-elected Overseers to " take their charge " before the Chamberlain " within fifteen days after the Feast of the Holy Trinity." The earliest of the Accounts of the Master

In honour  
of the Holy  
Trinity.



and Wardens, that for the year 1442-3, runs from "the fest of the Trinite the xx yere of the reigne of king Henry the vij<sup>th</sup> vnto the fest of the Trinite than next suyng" (pp. 303-10). Lastly, the Company's later charters and bye-laws fix the date of the election for "Trinity eve or within seven days thereof," and this has continued to be the date in use by the Company to the present day.

Election on  
Trinity eve.

The cutler's art was in early times divided into certain distinct branches. The *bladesmith* or *knifesmith* made the blade; the *hafter*, the haft or handle; the *sheather*, the sheath; and the *cutler* put together the various parts, and sold the tool or weapon complete. The hafters were an important class of workmen, and in days when the handles of swords, daggers, and knives were made of choice materials such as ivory, and embellished with gold, silver, and precious stones, the hafters were the artists of the craft. They were never independent of the cutlers, whose right to oversee the hafting of knives is provided for in the Ordinances of 1379-80. They are met with in very early times, and were mostly men of substance and high position. John de Ware, whose occupation as a hafter is variously described as *manubrierus*, *cinctor manubriorum*, and *maunchoerus*, bought a house in 1283 in the parish of St. Mildred Poultry. (*Husting Roll* 14, 127.) In March, 1307-8, he joined Juliana, his niece (*neptis*), in the disposal of property in the parish of St. Dionis Backchurch. (*Ibid.* 36, 12.) He also sold property in October, 1316, in the parish of St. Mary Woolchurch Haw. (*Ibid.* 45, 55.) He was executor of the will of John de Elsyngham, knifesmith, in March, 1311-12 (*Ibid.* 40, 79); by his own will, enrolled 18th October, 1317, he left his house in the Poultry to Bartholomew de Gedelestone in trust for sale. (*Ibid.* 46, 63.) Another hafter, *manuberiorum factor*, Richard de Taxted (*sic*), was possessed of a house in Broad Street in October, 1287. (*Ibid.* 17, 54.)

Cutlers at  
work.

The Hafters

Men of  
substance.

In February, 1300-1, Richard le Haftere and his wife Sibilla by deed enrolled in the Court of Husting granted to Richard le Barber, citizen of London, their house in the parish of St. Alban Wood Street, at the rent of a clove gilly-flower and on payment of 9s. 4d. to the Hospital of St. Katherine near the Tower of London. (*Husting Roll* 30, 26; cf. also 30, 1.) Salamon le Haftere, son of Richard and Sibilla, also quit-claimed his right to the same property. (*Ibid.* 30, 47.) Elias le Haftere was connected by marriage with a distinguished and wealthy cutler, being brother and heir of Isabel the wife of Salomon de Laufare or Salomon le Cotiller, an Alderman of the City. In March, 1312-13, after the deaths of his brother-in-law and sister, and to carry out a provision in his sister's will, Elias conveyed to John de Wangrave a tenement in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less. (*Ibid.* 41, 52.) He lived in or near the "Cutlery" in Cheap.

Prominent in  
early times.

A resident in  
the Cutlery.

William le  
Hafter.

Another substantial hafter was William le Hafter, who is mentioned in 1310 in the will of Clement le Feyner. (*Ibid.* 39, 25.) He is described also as a "heymonger." On the Monday after 30th April, 1315, a deed was recorded in the Court of Husting by which Stephen de Redburne, carpenter, granted to "William called le Haftere, heymonger," and his wife Sabina a tenement in the parish of St. Andrew, Castle Baynard. (*Ibid.* 43, 2; cf. also 39, 25.) He was living in the same parish in December, 1328, when he acquired another house there from Richard, son of Clement le Feuer, and two other persons. (*Ibid.* 56, 161.) He is described in January, 1332-3, as William le Haftere Sen., when he served on a jury in the neighbouring parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Old Fish Street. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 280.) He was assessed the same year in his ward of Castle Baynard at the sum of 6s. 8d. (*Subsidy Roll*  $\frac{144}{4}$ , 6 Edw. III.) A William le Hafter, perhaps his son, was sent from the ward of Cheap in the first year of Edward III



(1327-8) to join the City contingent required by the King to fight against the Scots. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll A1*, 9.) It is not surprising to find that the Hafters, who worked at the most profitable branch of the cutler's craft, were men of substance, when we learn that in 1385 the enormous sum of twenty-two shillings was paid for a knife to a London cutler (p. 44).

The Sheathers were a more numerous body than the Hafters, and at this early period had a separate organisation and ranked as one of the Misteries of the City. A search in the *Pleas and Memoranda Rolls* in the City archives (a most valuable series of ancient records at present un-indexed) has brought to light a document containing the earliest Ordinances of the Sheathers dating from 1326-7, the first year of the reign of Edward III. The Ordinances are not entered in the City Letter Books, although they are referred to and confirmed by the later Ordinances of 1375 recorded in *Letter-Book H*. The earlier code is the oldest official record extant concerning the Cutlers' Mistery in any of its branches; the original text in Norman French, with a translation, will be found on pp. 234-6. The document is in substance as follows: On Tuesday after 12th March (the festival of St. Gregory the Pope), 1326-7, John Brond, Sheather, attended at Guildhall on behalf of the good folks of his Mistery and petitioned the Mayor and Aldermen assembled in full Court of Husting of Common Pleas to give their sanction to certain "points" agreed upon by the Sheathers for the good government of their Mistery. The Court, either not being satisfied with the credentials of John Brond or conceiving that they were not treated with sufficient respect, required the attendance on the following Monday of a more representative body of the Sheathers. This order being duly obeyed, we are furnished with the following list of names of the assembled craftsmen, comprising the chief masters of the trade, viz. John and Simon Brond, Geoffrey Le Shethere, John Moton, Roger de Kent, William

The  
Sheathers.

Ordinances  
of 1326-7.

Bock, Thomas de Hyde, William Pykeman, Walter de Pomfreyt, Richard de Ware, Robert de Marchamstede, Simon May, Richard Le Wylde, William Le Tableter, Dicun de Essex, William of the veste, and John de Southwerk.

The petitioners pray the Court to sanction certain regulations for the government of their Mistery and occupation, viz., That none be permitted to work by night, nor on Sunday, nor on the chief Festivals of the Church. That workmen employed by members of the Mistery undertake to serve for a definite term, and not to depart from the master's service without his leave. That none employ a "foreigner" to work in the trade, unless such workman can find sufficient surety for his good and loyal behaviour to the Mistery and the City or become a freeman of the City. Any one of the Mistery contravening the said Articles and being so convicted before the Mayor and Sheriffs shall be fined for the first offence 40*d.*, for the second half a mark, and for the third shall forswear the Mistery. At the same Court, and at the request of the Mistery, the five following men, viz., Simon Brond, John Brond, Roger de Kent, John Motun, and Geoffrey Le Shethere, were elected and sworn, as Rulers of the Mistery, to enforce obedience to the said Articles.

In the year 1375, nearly fifty years later, the Sheathers again approached the Court of Mayor and Aldermen for a confirmation and revision of their code of Ordinances which had of late been laxly observed. Their petition resulted in the grant of another set of Ordinances which appear in the City books under date of 20th September, 49 Edward III. (*Letter-Book H*, f. 22*b.*) This document, in Norman French, is transcribed and translated on pp. 254-6. After stating that the previous Ordinances had been badly observed by the negligence of those sworn to search out and present offences concerning the Mistery, the petitioners pray for the assent of the Court

Night and Sunday work forbidden.

Rulers sworn.

Ordinances of 1375.

Neglect of previous Ordinances.



to the following provisions. That the former Ordinances may be observed in all respects, except the prohibition against working at night. They allege that the Cutlers are not so restrained, but work at night in their Mistery, and they pray that they may be granted the like freedom. Also that the commonalty of the Mistery be permitted to elect yearly four discreet men to be admitted and sworn at Guildhall faithfully to search out and present offences within the Mistery to be redressed by the Mayor and Aldermen, the penalties so incurred being paid to the use of the Chamber. That all work made of false material or deceitfully made, in whose soever hands it may be found by the said searchers within the City, be forfeited to the use of the Chamber, and the maker fined according to the provisions of the former ordinances. That none of the Mistery receive a journeyman who has not been apprenticed, unless he be tested by the said Searchers whether he be fit to work in the said Mistery or not ; and if anyone of the said Mistery take a journeyman for a week after he has been notified and warned by the said Searchers that he is not fit, he shall incur the penalty aforesaid. None of the Mistery shall be disobedient to any of the Searchers or refuse him admission into his house at a lawful hour when accompanied by a serjeant of the Chamber to make search, under the penalty aforesaid. None shall be made free of the Mistery unless he can find at least four freemen of the Mistery to testify to the Chamberlain as to his skill. None of the Mistery shall agree to give his journeyman more than 30s. a year, besides his food ; he that does the contrary shall incur the said fine. Any who without reasonable cause shall refuse, when summoned by their Wardens, to attend the meetings called to correct offences concerning the Mistery, shall incur the said penalty. If it be proved that the said Wardens are contrary to their oath, lax and remiss in performing their office, let them suffer the same penalty.

Night work  
permitted.

Journeymen  
to be tested.

Wages of  
journeymen.

It will be noticed in the above Ordinances that the ruling officers of the Mistery are variously styled Searchers and Wardens, but whether they were the same officials or had separate duties is not clear. On 16th August, 1408, the Cutlers approached the Court of Aldermen with a complaint against the Sheathers for bad workmanship which they ascribed to lack of proper oversight and presentation of defaults to the Chamberlain. Their petition throws an interesting light upon the cutler's art. It was the cutler's business, they say, to sell knives as finished articles, and he was responsible for their quality and workmanship. The knife was produced, however, by three different crafts ; the blade by the bladesmith, the sheath by the sheather, the handle and other necessary fittings by the cutler. As the blame for deceitful work fell upon the cutlers, they prayed for authority to oversee the work of the sheathers and to correct all faults found therein. The Court of Aldermen decided that two Masters of the Cutlers and two of the Sheathers should make search jointly of all sheaths exposed for sale within the City, whether made by members of either Mistery or by any other person within the kingdom of England. The document, with translation, is printed on pp. 282-3.

The  
Cutlers'  
complaints.

Sheathers'  
bad work.

Joint powers  
of search.

Rulers of  
the Sheath-  
ers.

Sheathers  
united with  
Cutlers.

A list of the sworn Rulers of the Sheathers' Mistery will be found on pp. 246-7. The list begins with the five men elected in 1326-7, as related in the Ordinances of that year. The next election on record was in 1348, the number of Rulers being six. In the following year four were elected, and from 1392 until the last recorded election in 1441, the number was reduced to two. The later history of this Craft is obscure ; it was probably soon after this date that it ceased to be a separate Mistery and became united with the Cutlers. Robert Gate, however, one of the executors of the will of Robert Pykmere (proved in May, 1487), is described in the body of the will as a "shether," and is not found among the Cutlers. He



was indebted to the testator in the sum of 19*l*. The Sheathers never attained to municipal standing, such as the possession of a livery or the privilege of sending representatives to the Common Council ; they included, however, among their members many men of substance, as the list of their Rulers shows. One of the earliest of these *Vaginarii* or Sheathers of whom there is any personal record was Reginald le Shether, who was assessed in Langbourn ward at 13½*d*. for the Royal subsidy of 12 Edward II, 1318-9. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 3.) Robert le Shether was a juror in a suit before the Mayor and Aldermen in March, 1334-5 (*Letter-Book E*, p. 294), and served as juryman at an inquest in Cornhill Ward on 12th November, 1336. (*Coroners' Rolls F*, 3.) Geoffrey le Shether was also a juror on this last occasion, and again in May, 1340. (*Ibid. H*, 25.) On 12th November, 1336, Walter le Shether was similarly summoned from the ward of Cordwainer Street where he lived. (*Ibid. F*, 4.) More is known of John de Ely, who lived near Newgate Market and served on a jury in that locality in July, 1347. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 166.) He was one of the Rulers of his Craft in 1348.

Prominent  
Sheathers.

Richard Warde was a prominent member of the Sheathers' Mistery, having served as one of the Rulers in 1349, 1381, and 1384. In 1325 he acquired a tenement in the parish of St. Mary Aldermary. (*Husting Roll* 124, 110.) His will, dated 27th May, 1401, and proved in September, 1407, is preserved in the Cartulary of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon at Mercers' Hall (f. 179). He desires to be buried in that Hospital, and leaves to its Fraternity his house in the parish of St. Mary Aldermary and a quit-rent of 13*s*. 4*d*. issuing from a shop "in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch near the Conduit London" adjoining on the west a brewery or tavern "called the Mayden on the hope." (See also *Husting Roll* 132, 24.) The rest of his property, after payment of bequests to various

Richard  
Warde.

A resident in  
the Cutlery.

ecclesiastics and of 3s. 4d. to Richard Clerk "filiolo meo," was to be distributed for the benefit of his soul and the souls of Emma and Cicely his wives. Another member of the Mistery, Richard Berthyn, was appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen on 11th November, 1364, a joint-trustee for Simon Gentil, a minor. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 166.) One Bernard Reyner, a Shether, figures chiefly in the City books as a promoter of legal strife, and was indicted in 1378 as a "maintainer in many complaints between weavers of Flanders and weavers in the City," and also as "a common maintainer." (*Letter-Book H*, p. 113.) At the close of our present period we find John Trumpington, shether, whose wife Alice was daughter of John Helpestone, pulter (poulterer), deceased, and became a ward of the City; on 23rd January, 1397-8, Trumpington acknowledged before the Court of Aldermen the receipt of the property left to his wife by her father. (*Ibid.* p. 206.) Richard Trumpington, probably a brother, was a Ruler of the Sheathers' Mistery in 1377, 1380, 1384, and 1394. The name of John Cowper, another "shether," appears a century later. In January, 1496-7, his will was enrolled in the Husting Court, by which he left his tenement in the parish of St. Leonard Eastcheap to a religious fraternity at Sudbury in Suffolk. (*Husting Roll* 224, 8.)

The Trump-  
ingtons.

Another occupation, that of the Furbours, was common perhaps to the crafts of Cutlers and Armourers; this craft was engaged in furbishing and refitting old armour, weapons, and garments. The trade being profitable and the good folks of the Furbishers numerous, the Mayor and Aldermen sanctioned certain Articles for the government of the Mistery on the Monday after 29th June, 1350. The text of these Articles, with translation, is given on pp. 239-241; it is only necessary to notice a few of the provisions, the rest consisting of orders and prohibitions which are usually found in the ordinances of Misteries of this period. The following regulation shows that the

Furbours or  
Furbishers.

Ordinances  
of 1350.



furbour, in his skilful occupation of restorer of old weapons, must have had knowledge of the crafts of the Hafter and the Sheather. "No one of the said trade shall make in his house, or allow to be made, pommels and hilts of swords, if they be not of good iron and steel; and the scabbards must be made of good calf-leather: and if any one shall be found doing to the contrary thereof, let him lose such false work, and be punished at the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen." The next regulation is as follows: "No one shall cause a sword that has been broken to be repaired or made up again, in conceit or subtlety to the deceiving of the people, on the pain aforesaid." The last article runs thus: "If any strange man of the said trade shall come into the City, to dwell therein, no one of the trade shall receive him to work, if he be not examined before the Mayor and Aldermen, and it be known that he is a good workman by the folks of the same trade." At the same Court, Geoffrey de Meltone, Edward Thorbane, William de Leycestre, Nicholas de Wyllesthorne, and Stephen de Beddeford, were sworn to keep the above Ordinances.

Broken  
swords not  
to be  
repaired.

Rulers  
sworn.

For nearly two centuries before the date of the above Ordinances members of the trade are found in good proportion among the more prosperous London citizens, but in the latter half of the fourteenth century the trade seems to have fallen upon evil times, as the names of wealthy furbours no longer appear in the City books. Possibly the grant of the Ordinances of 1350 was the result of a despairing effort to revive a decaying industry. The Furbours took no part in City government, nor do their Rulers (except those sworn in 1350 to administer the Ordinances) seem to have been admitted into office at the Guildhall. This Craft was certainly associated more closely with the Cutlers than with the Armourers. The Ordinances are concerned only with the repair of *weapons*, not with that of *armour*; many furbours lived in or near the "Cutlery," and they

A prosperous  
trade.

Allied to the  
Cutlers.

are often found associated with cutlers and bladesmiths in trade enquiries and disputes. Many of them lived in the settlements of the Cutlers near London Bridge, and in the Fleet district.

Early  
Furbours.

The earliest Furbour of whom any record can be found is Simon le Furbur, who was a resident in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less, near the church, in 1255. (*Husting Roll* 2, 12.) His "capital house and gardens" there, with two other houses and two shops in Chepe, were left by his will to Cecilia his wife, and in remainder to his daughter Isabella and his two sons Robert and Reginald. His will, undated, was enrolled in the Court of Husting on 4th April, 1261. (*Ibid.* 2, 171.) From another deed (*Ibid.* 4, 87) we learn that the widow Cicely married Martin de Amyas, and that Reginald le Furbur called "Brun" (Simon's and her son) sold the family messuage in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less (which he inherited) in February, 1270-1. Peter le Furbur appears in May, 1280, as indebted jointly with Richard de Kirkestede to a merchant of Bordeaux in the sum of 26 marks, to be paid "in good and new pence." (*Letter-Book A*, p. 32.) He lived in Cheap, and was 8*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* in arrear for rent in March, 1285-6, and again for 8*l.* in February, 1291-2. (*Ibid.* pp. 95, 137.) In March, 1280-1, Peter de Briggewalter, furbur, acknowledged a debt of 3*l.* 10*s.*, jointly with another, due for wine to another Bordeaux merchant, Remund Martin, a burgess of Bordeaux. (*Ibid.* p. 38.) Aunsel (or Auncelyn) le Furbour, with Margaret his wife, was a grantee in February, 1295-6, of certain tenements in the parish of St. Magnus, London Bridge (*Ibid.* p. 200); he was still living in Bridge ward in 1310, when he was one of three men elected to keep Bridge Gate against the exportation of victuals to Scotland. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 241.) Anselm le Fourbour (probably identical with Aunsel or Auncelyn above) was one of six men elected as representatives of Bridge ward who, on 29th June, 1297, attended a meeting of the Aldermen and chief citizens

London  
Bridge  
residents.



summoned by Sir John Breton, Warden of the City. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 237.) He conveyed to John de Chartenys in 1317 a tenement and shops in Fleet Street. (*Husting Roll* 46, 56.) In March, 1305-6, Bernard le Fourbour, Alexander le Fourbour, and William Lumbard, heaumer (helmet-maker), were bound over to discharge (by weekly payments of 6d.) a debt of 23s. which they owed to Nicholas Picot, Alderman. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 167.) William le Fourbour, who lived in "Graschirche" (Gracechurch) in Langbourn ward, first appears as a creditor and debtor respectively for small sums, in November, 1305, and 1306. (*Ibid.* pp. 163, 176.) On 5th April, 1311, he was one of four persons "elected before the Mayor to survey pavements and divers disturbances in the City of London," for the ward of Langbourn. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 312.) He was surety for one of his kinsmen, one Robert Wardeboys, a furbour, as we learn from a note on the fly-leaf of *Letter-Book E* (*circ.* 1300-1336). On 3rd June, 1316, he acted in the same capacity for Amicia relict of Robert le Chaundeler who was guardian of her son during his minority (*Letter-Book E*, p. 68); and he contributed in April, 1320, to the City loan of 1,000*l.* to Edward II. (*Ibid.* p. 128.) His name appears in December, 1321, when he was surety for Simon Ricongay (*Ibid.* p. 158), and again in February, 1321-2, as surety for Cristina Neweman; he was then "of the ward of Chepe." (*Ibid.* p. 162.) In October, 1323, he purchased land and shops in the parish of St. Leonard Eastcheap (*Husting Roll* 52, 13), and in the same year by a deed in which he is described as "William le Furbour de ysmongers-lane," he acquired a yearly quit-rent of 5½ marks from lands and tenements in St. Martin Pomeroy and St. Lawrence Jewry. (*Ibid.* 52, 11.) He is once more met with in his old locality of "Grascherche" cornmarket in July, 1347, when he was one of the jury at the trial of John de Burstalle for selling wheat above the market price. (*Memorials*, pp. 235-6.)

William  
le Fourbour.

The name of Adam le Furbisur or le Furbour appears in February, 1291-2, in a deed (*Husting Roll* 21, 18) concerning the dower of his wife Alice, the widow of Richard le Kayere of Soper Lane. In November, 1299, then living at London Bridge, he and his wife conveyed to Simon de Perys certain property in "Soperslane" which Alice inherited from her father. (*Ibid.* 29, 12.) He soon afterwards removed to the Fleet district, for his name appears on 2nd August, 1307, on the panel of a jury, composed of residents, to enquire who should repair the broken pavement near Flete Bridge; this locality was one of the chief seats of the London cutlery trade. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 140.) His will, undated, was enrolled in February, 1314-15. (*Husting Roll* 43, 67.) Another member of the trade, Hugh le Fourbour, was one of the sureties of John Maher, cofferer, on 21st December, 1310. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 137.) He contributed to the King's loan in April, 1320 (*Letter-Book E*, p. 129), and in the following year was associated with cutlers and allied craftsmen in appraising certain spear-heads of defective workmanship (*Ibid.*, p. 132). On 31st December, 1317, John de Saxtone, fourbour, was committed to Newgate for assaulting a "vadlet" (varlet) of Richard de Stanho, Dean of Arches, with the man's own sword. He seems to have been a person of influence, for he was liberated in a few days on his own undertaking to keep the peace and make compensation to the servant (*Memorials*, p. 126). One Thomas le Furbur, with Margery his wife, bought in January, 1316-17, a plot of land with houses in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch which formerly belonged to Geoffrey Patrick, citizen and cutler. (*Husting Roll* 45, 132.)

Henry le Forbour, of the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, left his interest in a tenement in that parish to his son William and his daughters Juliana, Margery, and Matilda, by his will, undated, enrolled 30th July, 1327. (*Ibid.* 55, 45.)



Another fourbour, William Loue (Love), who died between 14th August, 1327, and the following January, apparently childless, lived in the parish of St. Martin Pomery in "Ismongerlane." He left bequests to the Conduit, and for a chantry in his parish church. His City rents in Gracechurch, Eastcheap, and Finch Lane, were left to his wife Cristina, her brother John Grant, tanner, and others, by his will enrolled 25th January, 1327-8. (*Ibid.* 56, 22.) Contemporary with Love was William Le Neve, fourbour, who with his wife Alice sold his two shops in the Old Jewry in St. Stephen's Coleman Street parish in 1316 (*Ibid.* 45, 37), and removed to the parish of All Saints Bread Street. In 1326, as kinsman and heir of Isabel de Bentleye, he released his right to a house in the parish of St. Michael de Hoggenelane. (*Ibid.* 54, 41.) By his will, proved in 1328, he left his property to his wife and his children Thomas and Elena. (*Ibid.* 56, 76.)

Thomas de Norwych, forbour, had a shop near the "Cutlery" at the corner of "Bordehawelane" in the parish of St. Mary Colchurch near the Conduit; this he left to Agnes his wife. Another tenement in St. Mildred Poultry he left to maintain chantries in the churches of St. Mildred, St. Thomas of Acon, and St. Mary Colchurch. His will, dated December, 1329, was enrolled in the following February. (*Ibid.* 58, 17, 26.) Cristina le Furbour, the only woman of the trade yet discovered, owned rents in Fleet Street which, by her will dated 6th November, (proved 20th November), 1330, she ordered to be sold. (*Ibid.* 58, 112.) Robert le Fourbour was an archer in the contingent supplied by the City to "serve the King abroad" in the summer of 1338. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 27.) Richard le Furbour "de Hamstede" in June, 1315, sold property in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, which he bought from the executors of Adam le Furbour. (*Husting Roll* 43, 117.) He was also one of the jury at the trial of Richard de Pembroke, tailor, in July,

1341, for "the mainour of a portifory." (*Letter-Book F*, p. 256.) Matilda, daughter of Richard le Fourbour (probably another person), received a legacy in May, 1300, under the will of Anastasia Bunting. (*Husting Roll 29*, 29.) Reginald le Fourbour was a contributor of 100s. to the loan of 5,000*l.* granted by the City on Ash Wednesday 1340-1, to Edward III for his French wars. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll 3*, 12.) His name appears in the will of John de Tiffeld, apothecary, dated 31st December, 1348, where he is described as "of London Bridge" and as the former owner (together with Matilda his wife) of a tenement in the parish of All Hallows Bread Street. (*Husting Roll 76*, 53, 249.) Of Richard le Herde, "forbour," all that is known is his acquisition of a quitrent in 1330, in the parish of St. Katherine within Aldgate, and its disposal, after his death, by his daughter Joan, in 135-45; she was then the wife of John de Elmeswell. (*Ibid.* 58, 106; 83, 9.) From the will of John de Marreys, made in September, 1342, and proved in the following January, it appears that he lived in Watling Street, and left a widow (Margery) and two sons, John and William. (*Ibid.* 69, 149.) Another son, Nicholas, was a party to a deed relating to his father's property in March, 1361. (*Ibid.* 92, 43.) In 1347 another furbour, Thomas de Banham, and Ellen his wife, bought a house, three shops, and some land, in St. Bride's, Fleet Street, formerly belonging to John, son of Ralph le Cotiller. (*Ibid.* 74, 153.)

In November, 1366, John Payn, fourbour, discharged his liability in the sum of 20 marks as surety for John Lubek, saddler. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 168.) John le Fourbour was concerned on 20th October, 1378, in the settlement of the estate of Richard de Westminster, deceased; having, with four others, apportioned the property between the two sons. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 103.) The name of Edward Thurbarn, furbour, occurs in two deeds dated March, 1368-9, one of which is a release by Thurbarn



and his wife Agnes of their right to a tenement in the parish of St. Stephen Walbrook. (*Husting Roll* 98, 42, 43.) Geoffrey Botteston, furbour, and his wife Alice lived in St. Bride's parish, Fleet Street, and left three children, John, Thomas, and Matilda. His will, dated 8th September, 1380, was enrolled in November, 1381. (*Ibid.* 110, 59.) John, who inherited his father's property in St. Bride's parish, sold it as recorded in two *Husting* deeds dated April, 1410, and February, 1412-3. (*Ibid.* 137, 80; 141, 23.) John Scorfyn, a wealthy furbour of Fleet Street was associated with William de Thornhull, also a furbour, and with others, in many property transactions between the years 1373 and 1379. (*Ibid.* 101, 131; 103, 102; 104, 8; 106, 118; 107, 75, 85; 108, 6, 17, 18, 36, 39.) In all these deeds he is called a furbour, but he belonged to the Armourers' Mistery; he is described by his executors as furbour and armourer (*Ibid.* 129, 66), and as armourer in his will, dated 16th March, 1389, and proved in February, 1390-1. (*Ibid.* 119, 64.) From this date, the last quarter of the fourteenth century, the names of furbours and all mention of their occupation suddenly disappear from the City books.

Another occupation subsidiary to the cutler's art was that of the Grinder. A William de Orlions is described as a "share-grinder" in a deed of November, 1323, in connection with a house in Candlewick Street which he held jointly with another citizen, William de Stanford. (*Anc. Deeds* A, 1618.) A curious ordinance made by the Court of Aldermen in 1423 concerning their trade is discussed in Chapter 3. The Grinders as a body we shall meet with later, as a cause of much trouble to the authorities of the Cutlers' Company. (See pp. 129-30.)

The most important branch of the cutler's art was that followed by the Bladesmiths. They reached their highest influence in the trade during the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, but are met with as prominent citizens as early as

the thirteenth century. The Bladesmiths' industry was further divided into two branches, those of the Knifsmiths and the Swordsmiths. Previous to the fifteenth century, when swords came into more general use, the Knifsmiths were an important and probably wealthy body of workmen, although they were never separately organised. The earliest knifsmith yet found on record is Robert le "Cnifsmith," otherwise known as Robert le Cutiller, who was living in the year 1224-5 (p. 53); his son Richard's grant of land in the parish of St. Giles in the Fields will be found at length on pp. 229-30. Another craftsman of almost contemporary date was Saman the Knife-smith, whose son John was apprenticed in 1299-1300 (p. 69). John de Elsyngham, knifsmith, whose will was enrolled in March, 1311-12, died possessed of a house in the parish of St. Michael Cornhill which was then tenanted by another knifsmith, Stephen atte Holte. (*Husting Roll* 40, 79.) In 1318 John Brown, knifsmith (*faber cultellorum*), appears as vendor of a house in Birchin Lane, Cornhill (*Ibid.* 47, 47), and in another deed relating to the same property he is described as citizen and cutler. (*Ibid.* 47, 17.) The small number of Knifsmiths (so named) which are met with in ancient records is probably to be accounted for by the fact that they are usually described as Cutlers.\* The Swordsmiths formed the more important branch of the Bladesmiths' craft, but are seldom found thus described in early times. The only instance yet brought to light of an early swordsmith is that of William Fyniel de Wyndesore, swordsmith (*gladiarius*), who was admitted to the City Freedom in July, 1310 (p. 75).

The  
Bladesmiths'  
Mistery.

It is not easy to understand the exact position of the Bladesmiths at this time. They were certainly, as a Mistery, independent of the Cutlers, and continued so, as we shall see, to

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\* A modern instance occurs in "Calendar of Husting Wills," v. I, p. 227, where the editor translates "*faber cultellorum*" as "cutler"; also in Calendar of Letter-Books (B, p. 160.)



much later times. The swordsmiths must have been under the rule of the Bladesmiths, but the knifsmiths certainly belonged to the Cutlers' Mistery. The first-recorded admission at Guildhall of the newly-elected Rulers of the Bladesmiths is in 1376 (*see* p. 247), but in the same year Robert Roderam, one of these Rulers, was returned as their representative in the Mistery of *Smiths* at the important meeting of the Common Council to which the men of the Misteries were specially summoned in that year (*Letter-Book* H, p. 43). On this occasion the Smiths (now Blacksmiths) had the large proportion of *six* representatives, comprising two Lorimers (Curb or Bit Makers), a Farrier, a *Bladesmith*, a Blacksmith, and a Heumer (Helmet-maker). This cannot have been more than a temporary connection of the Bladesmiths with the Smiths, as the former craft was already organised as a Mistery.

Rulers of the  
Bladesmiths.

By a writ of Edward III, dated 26th June in the 39th year of his reign (1365), the Mayor and Sheriffs were ordered to see that every maker of swords, knives or other weapons placed his mark upon his work; all goods not so marked and offered for sale were to be forfeited to the King's use. (*See* pp. 248-9.) The writ was entered in the City books (*Letter-Book* G, p. 194), but no directions concerning it were given to the Bladesmiths, Cutlers, or any other Mistery, and its execution apparently devolved upon the City authorities themselves. This would seem to show that the manufacture of blades was not under the control of a single Mistery, and to support the conclusion that the Bladesmiths and Knifsmiths at this period were ruled by different authorities. The later history of the Bladesmiths' Mistery belongs to another chapter, but a short reference must be made here to the curious case of William Warde already mentioned (p. 13). Warde, a cutler of York, desirous of removing to London, sought admission to the Cutlers' Mistery, but the agent whom he employed

Marks on  
Blades.

Confusion  
with  
Bladers.

deceitfully procured his admission into the Mistery of the "Bladers." There can be little doubt that by "Bladers" is here meant "Bladesmiths." The Bladers never became an organised Craft or Mistery in the City but were a class of well-to-do merchants dealing in corn, and from the time of John Stow, the City historian, to the present day they have occasionally been confused with the Bladesmiths; the confusion may have arisen from a similar abbreviation for the two names being sometimes employed in original records.

Locality of  
the Cutlery  
trade.

The London cutlers, though living (according to early records) in various parts of the City, were largely congregated in three distinct localities. These were the "Cutlery" by the Conduit in West Cheap, the neighbourhood of London Bridge, and the locality of the River Fleet. Of these settlements the first was probably the earliest and certainly the most important. In the account of London written by the Norman chronicler, Fitz Stephen, we are told that in the earliest times the various trades of the City were each located in a special district. The colony of Cutlers assembled in the neighbourhood of the Conduit in West Cheap was especially known as the "Cutlery," and there is every likelihood that this colony was the oldest settlement of the cutlery trade in London, dating from the primary location of the trades described by the old chronicler. The early connection of the Cutlers with this locality is revealed in an interesting document of the year 1285, which states that a "house of the Cutlers" existed on this spot opposite the Conduit. This house belonged to Roger de Northwode, and is mentioned as part of his possessions in the inquisition held after his death on 15th November, 1285. The statement runs thus:—"Item predicti jurati dicunt quod fratres sancti Thome de Ac(on) ten(ent) de predicto Rogero in ciuitate Londonie ex opposito conducti quandam domum Cottellariorum reddendo inde per annum

The  
"Cutlery"  
by the  
Conduit.

The  
"House of  
the Cutlers."



eidem Rogero xij libras et dicta domus pertinet ad manerium de Thorneham in comitatu Kantie quod tenetur de domino Willelmo de Say." (*Chanc. Inq. p.m.* Edw. I, file 42, no. 12.) In English the records reads:—"Also the aforesaid jurors say that the brethren of St. Thomas of Acon hold of the aforesaid Roger in the City of London, opposite the Conduit, a certain house of the Cutlers, rendering thence to the same Roger twelve pounds a year, and the said house belongs to the manor of Thorneham in the county of Kent which is held of the lord William de Say."

The Cutlers' house long remained in the possession of the Northwode family. John, son and heir of Roger de Northwode, who was thirty-one years old at his father's death, succeeded to the estates and became a knight. He was succeeded by his grandson Roger (*Inq. p.m.* Edw. II, vi, 108-9, 181) who, in July, 1331, granted by deed (*Husting Roll* 59, 72) the annual rent of 12*l.*, received from the Hospital for the Cutlers' house, to Durandus de Wydmerpol. In this deed the property is described as a tenement between the door of the church of St. Thomas of Acres and the church of Colchurch. By another deed, a few days later, the property was re-settled upon Roger de Northwode and his wife, Elizabeth. (*Ibid.* 59, 82.) Another grant of the rent by Sir Roger de Northwode, knt., in July, 1356, describes the property as situated "ex opposito in parte boriali conducti," *i.e.* facing the Conduit on the north side. (*Ibid.* 84, 75.) Ten years later the family of Northwode still held the estate, Sir John de Northwode, son of Sir Roger, being the owner. (*Ibid.* 85, 9; 94, 36.) The Cutlers' house, held on lease by the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, must have been a large building, as the rent paid by the Brethren of St. Thomas to Roger de Northwode was no less than 12*l.* a year. The exact particulars of the ownership are difficult to discover. The house

Held by the Northwodes.

Leased to the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon.

Cutlers' ownership obscure.

Probably of early date.

Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon.

The "Cutlery."

formed part of the manor of Thorneham, in Kent, which was held by Roger de Northwode of another over-lord, Sir William de Say. The position of the Cutlers with respect to their "house" at this period is not clear. Paying so large a rent, it seems most probable that the Hospital occupied the premises for their own use, but whether the Cutlers were to any extent their sub-tenants does not appear. All that can safely be stated is that the house was once in the possession of the Cutlers, and may possibly have formed part of the site originally granted to the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon by Thomas, son of Theobald de Helles, between the years 1221 and 1228. (Watney, *Some account of the Hospital*, 1892, pp. 237, 241.) The establishment of the Cutlers on this site must have been nearly coeval with, if it did not ante-date, that of the Hospital. The "House of the Cutlers" probably adjoined that of Gilbert Becket the Portreeve, father of St. Thomas, whose house in West Cheap formed part of the site of the famous Hospital founded in honour of Gilbert's son, the Londoners' patron saint, St. Thomas à Becket. The Hospital became one of London's most sacred spots; it was hallowed by the devotions of the Mayor and Aldermen, with their attendant officers, on many occasions throughout the year, and the highest nobles in the land sought the honour of burial within its walls. This famous religious house was dissolved in 1538, and three years later the site came into the possession of the Mercers' Company, and is now occupied by their Hall and Chapel. The building had a frontage on the north side of West Cheap, a little to the east of Ironmonger Lane. Its site was wholly in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch, which extended eastward along the frontage of Cheap until it joined the parish of St. Mildred, Poultry.

What was known as the "Cutlery" appears to have been a group of cutlers' shops and houses clustering round the "House



of the Cutlers," and situated in these two parishes, but chiefly in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch. Frequent mention of both parishes will be found in the life records of early cutlers contained in the next chapter, and many cutlers, even down to modern times, have been connected with the parish of St. Mildred, Poultry. The settlement of the Cutlers by the Conduit probably extended into Ironmonger Lane, as it certainly did towards the north-east to the ward of Broad Street, where many of the trade held property. An interesting, and perhaps the earliest, mention of the "Cutlery" is a bequest of Alderman Salomon de Laufare, who by his will (undated, but enrolled in the Court of Husting in March, 1311-12) left to his wife Isabel two shops *in the Cutlery, London*, and a solar extending from the entrance to the Conduit tavern up to the church of St. Thomas de Acon. The following are the exact terms of the bequest :—"Item lego dicte Is' vxori mee totum terminum quem habeo in ij schopis in Cotellaria Lond' sitis inter schopam quondam Ricardi Russell & schopam Henrici de Merlawe. Item lego dicte eidem Is' vxori mee totum terminum quem habeo in quodam solario quod tenui ultra schopas dicte Cotellar' continens in longitudine ab introitu taberne de Conductu vsque ad murum ecclesie sancti Thome de Acon." (*Husting Roll* 40, 77.) Another reference to the "Cutlery," in March, 1326-7, is found in Edward III's answer to the Goldsmiths' petition, where "les Cotelers en la Cotelrie" were accused of selling silver-coated tin as pure silver. (*See* p. 108.)

Earliest notice.

Although no later mention of the "House of the Cutlers" is found, it is not unlikely that the headquarters of the Mistery continued in the vicinity of the Conduit until a settled home was found in Cloak Lane early in the fifteenth century. Among the dwellers in the "Cutlery" in the fourteenth century we find John de Mimmes, Geoffrey de Gedelestone, and Salomon de Lauvare. William de Coudre lived "by the Conduit in

Early dwellers there.

Westcheap," and Robert Deumars "near St. Thomas of Acon." The following are described as of the parish of St. Mary Colechurch:—John Patrick, John de Edelmethone, Henry de Laufare, William de London, and Geoffrey de Edelmeton. The settlement of the Cutlers in Cheap, the wealthiest of the wards of the City, is a striking proof of the prominent position of the craft in these early times. (*See map opposite.*)

Immediately facing the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon stood a notable and still more ancient landmark, the Conduit. The Conduit in Cheap was a most important water supply for the citizens of London. In early times its custodian was known as the Marshal of the Conduit; Thomas, called the Marshal of the Conduit of London, figures in a deed relating to property in St. Mary Colechurch parish in July, 1285. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 162.) The Keepers of the Conduit (as they were afterwards called), holding so important a trust, were men of high position in the City. At least two of them were cutlers, viz., Salomon de Laufare in 1292 and Geoffrey le Cotiller in 1325. Geoffrey, who lived near the Conduit, joined several of his neighbours in November, 1337, in a complaint to the Court of Aldermen against the brewers who wasted the Conduit water by using it for trade purposes. Order was then made that the "tynes" or buckets in which the brewers carried away the water should be seized for the benefit of the Conduit. (*Memorials*, pp. 201–2.) The order proved ineffective, for in July, 1345, on a further complaint, the offenders were forbidden to make ale or malt with the water of the Conduit under pain of fine and imprisonment, the fishmongers being also forbidden to wash their fish at the Conduit under the same penalty. (*Ibid.*, p. 225.) On this latter occasion the Common Serjeant asserted on behalf of the Commonalty that the Conduit "was built of old in the midst of the City of London, that so the rich and middling persons therein might there have water for preparing

The Conduit  
of West  
Cheap.

Complaints  
of waste  
by brewers.

And  
fishmongers.









their food, and the poor for their drink." From the account of the Keepers who held office in 1350 it appears that the receipts came largely from householders in the Poultry and in Cheap; the expenditure was chiefly for repairs and wages. (*Ibid.*, pp. 264-5.) In March, 1367-8, the City leased the revenues of the Conduit for ten years to two partners, one of whom was Robert Godwyn, a cutler. (*See* p. 88.)

Another important settlement of the trade existed from very early times in the neighbourhood of London Bridge, and especially in the parish of St. Magnus, where many cutlers lived and died. As further evidence, it appears that at the City Council held on 29th June, 1297, the Ward of Bridge had six representatives, two of whom were cutlers, viz., Simon le Cotiler and Eustace le Cotiler. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 237.) And again, an inquest was held on 19th May, 1278, upon the death of one Gilbert "Csloke," who whilst standing on London Bridge "fell asleep and accidentally fell over into the water and was drowned." The two neighbours nearest to the spot where he fell into the water were attached, viz., John le Noreys, cotiler, by Bartholomew le Gaunter and Richard Scot, cotiler; and John de Storteford by Thomas le Cotiler and Nicholas Brente. (*Ibid.*, p. 273.) It thus appears that of the nearest neighbours to this tragedy no less than three were cutlers. From these early times onward the cutlers of the Bridge were a numerous body; it will be sufficient to instance a few names taken from the next chapter. At the close of the thirteenth century Simon le Cotiler lived on London Bridge, but afterwards removed to the ward of Farringdon; Eustace le Cotiler lived near the Bridge in the parish of St. Martin Orgar about the years 1297-1309; in 1310 we find among the residents in the locality William Fyniel de Windsore, and in 1319 Robert de Ponte or le Cotiler.

London  
Bridge  
Cutlers.

A numerous  
body.

The trade also assembled at an early date in the valley of the Fleet as far north as Newgate, but largely around Fleet

Cutlers of  
the Fleet.

Street and in St. Bride's parish. In the early fourteenth century the following names are found :—Ralph de Flete, 1307 ; John de Flete, 1307-48 ; William le Cotiler without Ludgate, 1313 ; John de Pelham outside Ludgate, 1316-34 ; John de Mondene atte Hole within Newgate, 1332 ; and John atte Watre, 1340-9.

Chiefly  
in St. Bride's  
parish.

As time went on, the Fleet Valley cutlers grew more and more numerous, and the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, became an important centre of the trade. As will be seen later, many cutlers were buried in St. Bride's church and figure in the list of its benefactors.

Other  
Settlements.

Some early cutlers lived in Cornhill ; Thomas le Cutler and Walter de Chigwell, both of the thirteenth century, and John de Elsyngham, knifsmith, of the early fourteenth. Stephen le Cotiller, 1291-4, Lady Agnes le Cotiller, 1318-19, and John de Trillowe, 1340-9, lived in Walbrook ward. In the fourteenth century, and earlier, individual cutlers are found in the following wards, Bassishaw, Broad Street, Coleman Street, Cordwainer, and Dowgate ; but it is clearly impossible to make an exhaustive list, a principal difficulty being that many names of cutlers occur without indication of their place of abode. In the fifteenth century, as we shall see later, the Company's newly-built Hall in Horseshoe Bridge Street attracted many cutlers to its neighbourhood in the parish of St. Michael Paternoster Royal.

Cutlery ware.

From an entry in the City records of the reign of Edward I, it appears that the importation of " foreign " cutlery, either from the country or abroad, was strictly forbidden ; but the conviction recorded in the following case shows a merciful interpretation of the law. On Wednesday after 21st September, 1298, Hugh of Lemeryc (Limerick) in Ireland was attached for selling one hundred and a half of knives, as being foreign knives, and because it was found by lawful men of that trade the usage as to the same was unknown to him, the knives were ordered to be given back to him. (*Memorials*, pp. 39-40.)



The Cutlers' aim in keeping a high standard of excellence in the home manufacture of cutlery is clearly seen in the earliest records extant concerning the Mistery. The first clause of the Ordinances of 1344 provides for a Search for dishonest ware by the Rulers of the Mistery. All manner of ware, whether made by rich or poor, was to be searched and assayed, the makers of false work being subjected to heavy fines and in the end to dismissal from the trade. In the Ordinances of 1379-80 great care is shown that the hafting work shall be honestly performed. When silver was used for the handles it was to be of sterling quality, and the cheaper wooden handles were to be of wood in its natural state and not coloured. No cutlery was to be sent out of the City until it had been "viewed" by the Overseers of the trade. To facilitate a proper oversight, cutlers were obliged to sell their wares in their own shops or houses and were forbidden to send them for sale to markets and taverns.

Home manu-  
facture.

Honest work  
required.

Some casual information may be gathered from records as to prices in these early times; the great variation in value shows that the London cutlers were no less able to supply goods of high-class workmanship than those suitable for common use. On 20th November, 1281, Thomas Drinkhale stole a sword from the house of Richard le Coffrer of the value of 9*d*. (*Letter-Book B*, f. 4*b*, cxxvij.) On 23rd June, 1320, a large quantity of iron spear-heads, some of them gilt, were appraised at 2*s*. a dozen or 16*s*. a hundred. (*Letter-Book E*, f. 108.) In June, 1344, 63 knives, the property of Richard de Toppesfeld, cutler, were valued at 6*s*. 8*d*. only. (*Letter-Book F*, f. 220.) Under the will of John Nasyng, brewer, dated 15th October, 1361, all his knives attached to his girdle were ordered to be sold, and the proceeds given to the work of two City churches in equal moieties; a bequest somewhat hard to understand. (*Husting Roll 89*, 188.) Either the gift to be divided between

Prices of  
cutlery.

Iron spear-  
heads.

A costly  
knife.

the churches was very small or the knives were very costly. Of such high cost must have been a knife recorded in the Westminster Abbey archives (*Deed* No. 30,223) for which in 1385 John Stanelee, cutler, received the large sum of 22s. from Walter Leycester, King's Serjeant, and John Merston. The knife was bought by Thomas Ipres, and was probably intended for a costly present. One other instance is found in 1406, when goods stolen from a shop in the Cutlery included twelve baselards (short daggers) harnessed with silver-gilt, valued at 5*l.*, and twelve pairs of small knives, harnessed with jet and silver, valued at 30s. (*Memorials*, p. 562.)

Relation to  
the City.

City's trade  
control.

In common with all other trades and occupations in the City, the control of the cutler's art was in the earliest times exercised by the Court of Mayor and Aldermen. They were assisted in dealing with trade offenders by the advice of leading men of the Mistery. These assessors were at first probably summoned as occasion required, but at a later date it became the custom for certain men to be elected each year by the Mistery to act (when required) in that capacity, and also to supervise both the Mistery and its members. This system had evidently been in use long before the date of the Corporation's earliest records, which are the only source of information upon the subject. Later on, when codes of regulations for trade supervision became necessary, these were prepared by representatives of the Mistery and submitted to the Court of Aldermen for their sanction. Such were the Ordinances of the Sheathers in 1326-7 and 1375, those of the Furbours in 1350, and those of the Cutlers in 1344 and 1379-80. Under these ordinances the Mayor and Aldermen were relieved of much trouble in the settlement of minor disputes, and the Crafts themselves received powers which formed subsequently the basis of an extensive authority over the trade. The City, however, carefully reserved an offender's right of appeal to the Mayor

Power  
delegated to  
the Misteries.



or Chamberlain from the judgment of the Overseers of the Mistery, as provided in the Cutlers' Ordinances of 1379-80. Regulations, also, which affected more than one craft were not delegated to any Mistery, but were enforced directly by the City authorities. Such was the case with Edward III's writ for marking swords and knives (pp. 248-9). The City's control of apprenticeship and of admission to the City freedom has been already discussed, and was always most jealously guarded. As regards the Cutlers' Mistery, the City's rights were safeguarded by the provision that no cutler should open shop or take apprentices unless he were free of the City. As a return, the City secured both for the Crafts and their members many valuable privileges obtained from time to time under the Royal charters granted to the City. Chief among these were the monopoly which freemen of the City exclusively enjoyed of trading within the City, and the protection afforded them by the Corporation in disputes with merchants and others in the country and abroad. Among other special privileges, as we have seen, freemen were allowed by ancient usage to deal by wholesale in any and every commodity, but by retail only in the goods belonging to their own particular mistery. This custom had fallen into disuse and its revival formed one item in a petition of grievances presented by the whole Commonalty to the Mayor and Aldermen in the year 1364. The Court deferred the consideration of the matter, and there is no record of their ultimate decision. (*Letter-Book G*, pp. 179-181.)

City's control of freemen and apprentices.

Benefits of City protection.

Wholesale dealers.

In the following year, 1365, another valuable privilege was granted, or perhaps confirmed, to the freemen of the City. It was ordained "that if any one has been admitted to the freedom of the City in some one mistery, and afterwards wish to pursue some other mistery, he shall be allowed to do so, and to trade in all manner of merchandise at his will without any hindrance." (*Ibid.*, pp. 203-4.) A cutler by

Trade privileges.

Cutlers  
owning  
Breweries.

trade, one Robert de Asseborne, had rightly or wrongly carried on a second trade quite fifty years earlier, for in 1310 he owned a brewery in Fleet Street. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 184.) The trade of brewing was much favoured, either as a secondary occupation or as an investment, by wealthy cutlers of the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries, as the following instances will show. Robert Bronde had an interest in a Fleet Street brewery known as "le ledeneporche." William Wylde was a brewer in Whitecross Street until his death in 1365. Roger Walter sold his house in Mark Lane in 1396, together with various utensils belonging to a brewer's plant. In 1395 Roger Mark, the bladesmith, with three others, purchased a brewery known as "le key on le hope" in St. Sepulchre's parish. William Lathum, his brother John (a draper), and two others, were joint owners of a brewhouse in the same parish in 1406. Another Fleet Street brewery, known as "le Walsheman sur le Hope," was owned by Richard Wellom and two other cutlers early in the fifteenth century.

Civic office.

Some early cutlers attained high civic dignity. In 1236-7 Jordan le Coteler served the office of Sheriff; he was also an Alderman of the City, but at what date and for which of the wards he sat cannot be ascertained. Some fifty years later the Cutlers were again represented in high civic circles by Salomon de Laufare, better known as Salomon le Coteler, who was Sheriff in 1289-90 and Alderman of Broad Street Ward from about 1294 to 1308. (*See pp. 57-8.*) To these must be added Geoffrey atte Conduit, who was Sheriff in 1306-7 and Alderman of Bridge Ward from 1307 to 1312, for there is little doubt of his identity with Geoffrey le Cotiller, who was a Warden of the Conduit. (*See pp. 61-2.*) The Cutlers were also duly represented in the great City councils when the Mayor and Aldermen summoned the chief men of the City to consult with them on occasions of importance or sudden emergency. Great care was

Cutler  
Aldermen  
and Sheriffs.

City  
Councillors.



shown in procuring the attendance of citizens of the best possible type. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 206.) In 1312 the Common Council was composed of representatives of the Mистерies. On Saturday after 6th December 6 Edw. II (1312) there were assembled at the Guildhall the Mayor, Aldermen, "and of every craft of the City six or four good men to regulate and execute the affairs of the City, &c." (*Letter-Book D*, f. 140b.) The list of these councillors is unfortunately not preserved, but the Cutlers were doubtless represented. The choice of the best class of citizens as electors was even a matter of Royal concern. On 9th October, 1370, Edward III directed a writ to the City for proclamation to be made forbidding anyone to take part in the election of Mayor and Sheriffs unless he be of the better class of citizens and be especially summoned. (*Letter-Book G*, pp. 265-6.) On 30th May, 1297, the Ward of Bridge bore witness to the large number of men within its borders who pursued the cutler's craft by sending, as three out of its six delegates, Simon le Cotiler, Eustace le Cotiler, and Anselm le Furbur. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 237.) Henry de Merlawe served as a councillor in May, 1300 (*Letter-Book C*, p. 68), and William atte Gate on 11th November, 1320. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 137.) In April, 1338, Stephen le Cotiller, a substantial inhabitant of Coleman Street Ward, was one of six chosen from that ward to guard the City and its Gates. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 22.) Towards the close of Edward III's reign the practice again prevailed of summoning to the City Council men of the various Mистерies, instead of the inhabitants of the Wards. On 5th May, 1371, the King summoned the Mayor, Sheriffs, Recorder, and Aldermen, to wait upon him at Guildford on the following Thursday, and to bring with them four of the more sufficient commoners of each Mistry in the City. (*Letter-Book G*, pp. 280-1.) It would be interesting to know the names of the cutlers present on this occasion, but the list of the "commoners" is not preserved. Another important assembly of chief citizens was called in

A Common  
Council  
of the  
Mистерies.

The better  
class of  
citizens.

Delegates of  
the Mистерies.

Common  
Councillor's  
oath.

1376 to consider and rectify certain grave disorders which had lately prevailed in the government of the City. On the 9th of August an immense Commonalty met at the Guildhall, composed of men elected by each Mistery and deputed to serve as a Council for the City. Forty-seven Misteries sent representatives, those of the Cutlers being Simon atte Nax and Richard Godchild. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 44.) The oath taken by each member of this Common Council of the Misteries will be found in its original Norman French, with a translation, on p. 257. The Cutlers continued to be directly represented in the Common Council until the early part of the year 1384, when the election of Common Councilmen reverted to the wards. After this date individual members of the Craft appear from time to time as City Councillors, but only as representatives of the wards in which they lived or carried on their trade.

Relations  
with the  
State.

The State, acting through the Mayor and Aldermen as its intermediary, had much concern, and from many different stand-points, with the affairs of the City Misteries. As the nation possessed no standing army, the King had to obtain the forces required for his wars by direct levies upon his subjects. In the City of London the Misteries had to bear their share by contributing the quota assigned to each of them by the Mayor. The name of John le Cotiller appears among the arbalesters sent for the defence of Berwick under a writ directed to the Mayor and Sheriffs on 21st November, 1314. The first instance to be found of State interference with the cutler's craft is the writ of King Edward III in 1365 already mentioned, requiring all swords, knives, and other arms, to be stamped with the marks of their makers. The text of this writ, with a translation from the Latin, will be found on pp. 248-9. The King gives no explanation of his commands, which may have been occasioned by the prevalence of cutlery imported from abroad or "deceitful" ware of home manufacture. The control of

Earliest  
Royal Order.



Parliament was also freely exercised. In 1350-1 it was ordered that long knives, swords, or other specified weapons should not be worn in London and Westminster during the sitting of Parliament. (*Rolls of Parl.*, v. 2, p. 235a.) The cutler's art came also under the ban of sumptuary regulations. In 1363 Parliament ordained that cutlery adorned with gold and silver should not be used by handicraftsmen nor by their wives and children. (*Ibid.*, v. 2, p. 278b.) The troublous state of the times towards the close of the fourteenth century is reflected in a proclamation to ensure the peace of the City made on 29th June, 1372, by order of the King's Council. This proclamation prohibited the carrying of weapons in the City except by servants of lords and knights carrying their masters' swords, and commanded every hosteler to warn his hosts at their first coming to lay aside their arms. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 294.) Communications of a more cordial kind passed between the City and its Sovereign in 1363-4. In that year, the 37th of the reign of King Edward III, the various Misteries of London gave proof of their loyalty by sending him as a gift, through the hands of John de Cauntebrigge, Chamberlain of the City, the handsome sum of 428*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, towards which the Cutlers contributed 4*l.* (*Ibid.* p. 172.)

Authority  
of Parlia-  
ment.

Carrying  
swords for-  
bidden.

Gift to the  
King.

The close of the fourteenth century, with which this chapter ends, finds the Cutlers taking prominent part in a memorable struggle which convulsed both the City and the country at large. In 1386 the Cutlers, in conjunction with the Bowyers, Fletchers, Spurriers, and Bladesmiths (all of them crafts furnishing implements of war), petitioned the King and Parliament against the high-handed action of Sir Nicholas Brembre in securing his election as Mayor by violent means three years earlier. The struggle had more than a local importance, for Brembre, with Walworth, Philipot, and Exton, all prominent Aldermen, were adherents of King Richard II, whilst the

Petitions to  
Parliament.

Mayoralty  
contests.

Partisan-  
ship among  
the Mистерies.

Complaints  
against Sir  
N. Brembre.

opposing Aldermen, John of Northampton, John More, Sir Nicholas Twyford, and Richard Norbury were supporters of the King's uncles, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester. In the City the contest raged chiefly among the greater Guilds, but nearly all were drawn into it, the minor Guilds doubtless most unwillingly. On one side the protagonists were the Grocers, Brembre's own Company, and the Fishmongers, the Company of Walworth, Philipot, and Exton. On the opposite side were the Mercers, Goldsmiths, Drapers (John of Northampton's Company), and others; this party was supported by the Cutlers and the rest of the petitioning Companies. The Mercers' petition (in English) and that of the Cordwainers (in Norman French) are printed at length in the Rolls of Parliament (v. 3, pp. 225-7); similar petitions from the Saddlers, Painters, Armourers, Embroiderers, and other Companies, are preserved in the Public Record Office. These documents differ very little in the form and substance of their complaint, but the petition of the Cutlers, Bowyers, and others (printed, with translation, on pp. 263-71) is imperfect and in very bad condition. The ancient chronicle known as the "Chronicle of London" (edition 1827, p. 76) tells us that Brembre obtained the office of Mayor "not by free eleccion of the citee of London as it owith to be," but "the oolde halle was stuffed with men of armes overe even, be ordinaunce and assente of Sr Nicholl Brembre, for to chese hym maire on the morowe, and so he was." The Mercers' petition states that Brembre "wyth his upberers" procured his election "through debate and strenger partye," and by carrying "grete quantitee of armure to the Guyldehall," and if they of the Mercery or any other Crafts complained they "were anon apeched for arrysers ayeins the pees." In 1384 Brembre secured his re-election as Mayor (as the Cordwainers in their petition allege) by even greater violence, preventing his opponents from taking part in



the election by filling the Guildhall with armed men who, at their approach "sailleront sur eux ove gũnt noise, criantz tuwez, tuwez, lour pursuivantz hydousement." Brembre kept his supremacy for another year, being again elected Mayor in 1385, but on the ascendancy of the Duke of Gloucester and his party, he fell a victim to the "Merciless" Parliament, by whose order he was executed at Tyburn in February, 1388. Brembre  
executed.

A proof of the troublous condition of the times is seen in the oath ordered by the King's writ to be taken by the Mayor and Sheriffs, who were also to administer it to the Aldermen and the chief men of the City. The oath had been taken by those attending Parliament on 3rd June, 1388, and pledged them not to suffer the Acts passed in "this present Parliament" to be repealed. (See p. 271.) It was taken in the City by 490 Aldermen and leading citizens, including several cutlers whose names appear in Chapter II. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll*, A 28, m. 12 *et seq.*) Oath to  
support  
Parliament

## CHAPTER II.

### NOTICES OF LONDON CUTLERS OF THE TWELFTH, THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES.

Adam the  
Cutler.



THE earliest London cutler yet discovered is one Adam the Cutler, who lived in the parish of St. Michael in "Bassiehage," and flourished in the twelfth century, during the reigns of the early Plantagenet kings, Henry II, Richard I, and John. His name appears in an ancient deed concerning the land of Durandus the Fuster, which lay in that parish between the land of Adam the Cutler and that of John Palmer. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 7822.) The witnesses include Henry son of Ailwin, the first Mayor, who died in 1212, and Robert son of Bartholomew, Alderman, who was Sheriff in 1196-7. The date of the deed may therefore with much probability be assigned to the last decade of the twelfth century when both these witnesses flourished. Contemporary with Adam the Cutler was Thomas le Cutiller, who, unless he died a very young man, lived in the reigns of Richard I and John, at the end of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth century. He was dead in 1222-3, for in that year, as we learn from the *Feet of Fines* (7 Henry III, no. 48), his widow, Helen, and one Hamo Brand were together concerned respecting a house "in vico Dacorum" (in St. Clement Danes). Another prosperous cutler of contemporary date was Robert le Cutiller. His name appears with that of Eustace, Bishop of London, in connection with lands in "Stebbeheie" (Stepney), in the year 1225. (*Feet of Fines*, 9 Henry III, no. 54.) In an undated deed of Henry III's reign (*Anc. Deeds B*, 2387), Richard (probably his son) confirms to Sir Adam de Basinghes

Thomas le  
Cutiller.

Robert the  
knifsmith.





Sciamus plenius et sciunt quod Ego Ricardus filius Roberti fabri concessi et plenius carta mea confirmavi dno Ade de Basingstoke  
 Cui Londoni et heredibus suis ut ei assigmentis totam terram quam ipse tenet de hanc  
 wardo le mesuier et de ysalet de sprenton et omne usum meum et domum quod huius ut quod hanc potum et peruenit sine omni clamore et  
 impedimento meo et heredum meorum Ita quod Ego si fidelis mei si aliquis per nos ut pro nobis in tota dicta terra cum pertinentiis meis de  
 beant si potius aliquo iure exigat ut aliquid vendiderit in premissis pro qua si concessio et confirmatio dicitur ad me dedit in  
 et dicitur isabelle duas marcas argenteas in eius rei testimonium plenius scriptum meum apposui hunc testibus. Scilicet de parochia  
 Roberti ad meum reddendum Roberti de purtepol. Radulphi de Londonia. Willmo dispensario. Willmo de Leicesters. et alii.





certain property in the parish of St. Giles the Lepers. This Richard is described as son of Robert the Smith (fabri), and on the endorsement as "fiz Robert le Cnifsmith." The document is printed on pp. 229-30, and also faces this page.

We now find a cutler holding high office in the City. Jordan le Coteler (known also as Jordan of Coventry) served in 1236-7 as Sheriff of Middlesex, and in that capacity witnessed two deeds relating to lands in Edmonton and Stepney Marsh conveyed to the Priory of Holy Trinity. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 2277, 2579.) Another deed relating to the same Priory (*Ibid.* A, 2424) is witnessed by Jordan the Alderman, who was certainly identical with Sheriff Jordan. It seems that he left only one child, the daughter Joan, who, with her husband Robert de Belesale, in February, 1255-6, sold a garden in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less which was part of her inheritance. (*Husting Roll 2*, 12.) Joan had a son, Roger, who followed his grandfather's calling and inherited his lands. In February, 1280-1, Roger le Cotiler, son of Joan daughter of the late Jordan le Cotiler, parted with his right in lands and houses in the parish of St. Stephen on Walbrook which had belonged to Jordan. (*Ibid.* 12, 39.) He may perhaps be identified with another Roger of this craft who owned a tenement in "Candelwicestrate," in the parish of St. Clement, in January, 1258 (*Ibid.* 2, 20), and also with the husband of one Alice, described as late the wife of Roger le Coteler, who was life tenant of a house with garden in Lothbury in June, 1297. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 1584.) Alice was still living in 1312, when with her second husband, John le Joygnour, she parted with the property in St. Margaret, Lothbury, in which she and Roger had a life interest. (*Husting Roll 40*, III.)

Jordan le  
Coteler.

Roger le  
Cotiler.

To the same period belongs Henry the Cutler. He married Margery, the daughter of Arnold Arcener, and received from his father-in-law on his marriage some land with buildings in

Henry the  
Cutler.

John le  
Coteler.

the parish of St. Clement, Eastcheap. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 1937.) This property was given by his widow in 1246-7 to the Prior and Canons of Holy Trinity, London. (*Ibid. A*, 1892.) Another Henry le Coteler, perhaps a son of the foregoing, witnessed a grant to Adam de Forsham of a house in Lothbury on 1st June, 1297 (*Ibid. A*, 1584), and another deed also at the Guildhall on Thursday after 24th February, 1299-1300. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 184.) Of earlier date was John le Coteler, whose daughter Agnes and her husband Robert de Roching owned a tenement in "Sakoleslane," in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate in 1288. This had perhaps been mortgaged to a Jew, for the rent which Agnes and Robert then granted from it was warranted "against all men and women, Christians and Jews." (*Husting Roll 18*, 74.)

For almost fifty years we lose sight of London cutlers. The City Letter-Books, which contain the earliest record of the ordinary proceedings of the mayor and aldermen and such citizens as they summoned from time to time to assist in their council, do not begin until the reign of Edward I. From this time onwards this historical series of records forms a notable addition to the sources of information preserved in the Public Record Office and elsewhere.

William de  
Laufare.

William de Laufare, cutler, was one of the principal citizens of his day. He was the son of Walter le Chaloner, a maker of coverlets (*Letter-Book A*, p. 74 n.), and at first followed his father's trade. In May, 1275, he granted to the Priory of the Holy Trinity a quitrent of 4s. from property which he owned near the Priory at Aldgate. (*Husting Roll 7*, 44.) A man of wealth, he became surety on Saturday before 8th September, 1281, for Henry de Winchester, and on 21st September for Fulk le Barber and William le Coffrer, being bound in each case in the sum of 100 shillings, a large amount in those days. (*Letter-Book B*, pp. 3, 9.) On Tuesday after 1st September, 1285,



he and his brother Richard (both described as "chaloners," i.e. makers of coverlets or blankets) acknowledged a debt of 40s. payable to Thomas de Reyns. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 90.) He was appointed by the mayor and aldermen in 1277-8 as guardian of Robert Deumars, a minor, and in March, 1289-90 (then described as *cotiler*) he delivered an account of his trust before an alderman and the chamberlain. (*Ibid.*, p. 122.) On Tuesday before 10th June, 1291, another guardian being appointed, Laufare surrendered his charge, and there was "found remaining over in his custody the sum of 42*l.* sterling in money of the cutlers, for which he would render an account, as also for the increase thereof"; whereupon all writings were by common consent cancelled. (*Ibid.*, p. 177.) The expression "money of the cutlers" is very curious, and I have found nothing elsewhere to throw light upon it. The above entries in *Letter-Book A* are printed on pp. 230-1.

Guardian  
of Robert  
Deumars.

Money of  
the Cutlers.

William de Laufare had property in Lothbury, and perhaps lived there; for in 1294-5 a release was granted by him to Adam de Forsham of all his right in the messuage in the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury, which he had for ten years by demise from Richard de Lotheburi and Margaret, his wife. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 2260.) The property was again granted to Adam de Forsham by Richard, son of Richard of "Lothebery," by deed dated 1st June, 1297, to which Laufare was a witness. The house was then held for life by Alice, late wife of Roger le Coteler. (*Ibid.* A, 1584.) Laufare also acquired houses, in March, 1291-2 and in 1295, in the neighbouring parish of St. Bartholomew the Less, afterwards known as St. Bartholomew by the Exchange. (*Husting Rolls* 21, 34; 25, 34.) He was one of the principal citizens summoned from time to time to confer with the mayor and aldermen on the affairs of the City. On the Tuesday after Lady Day, 1299, he attended, with several leading men of the commonalty, a meeting of the mayor and

Resident in  
Lothbury.

A City  
councillor.

aldermen when matters of great moment were considered. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 38.) He was again present on Wednesday before 15th August, 1299, at a Court of mayor and aldermen, being elected with five others on behalf of the Commonalty to act with the mayor and aldermen in matters touching the Commonalty. The "matters" were of the highest importance, it being resolved that Henry le Galeys, the mayor, Elyas Russel, alderman, and Walter de Finginfeud, should go to the King in Scotland on certain necessary matters touching the City, viz., for the confirmation of ancient charters, liberties, and customs of the City; also for obtaining pardon and abatement of the King's wrath lately conceived towards the City; also for the presentation of the sheriffs for the twenty-seventh year of the King's reign, to be made at York; also for the remission of the sum of 100*l.*, in which William, Bishop of Bath, had amerced the City on account of a record made in the Exchequer for Osbert le Laner, as appeared in a certain letter sealed with the common seal in the possession of the three individuals aforesaid. The three delegates took with them 1,000*l.* in silver as a gift to the King. (*Letter-Book B*, pp. 74-76.) Laufare was also present at a meeting of the Court on the Saturday after 22nd February, 1304-5. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 143.) On 2nd August, 1309, he was appointed by John de Brysingham to receive the sum of 9*l.* on his behalf. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 224.) His death occurred subsequently to October, 1310, when he testified to the faithful services of his apprentices John de Hedeleghe and John de Toppesfeld, on their admission to the City freedom. He is described as of Cheap Ward. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 127.) The Husting deeds furnish the names of two of his sons by his wife Joan, daughter of Matthew Palmer *called* Spicer. In 1344 Salomon, the heir, released his right to two shops and some land in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill (71, 125; 72, 20), and in 1347 another son, Edward, gave a similar release in

One of five  
delegates of  
the Common-  
alty.

Deputed to  
approach the  
King.

His family  
and connec-  
tions.



respect of property in the same parish. (75, 4.) The de Laufare family was numerous in the City, but the relationship of its members is difficult to trace. Many of them were cordwainers, but two at least were important members of the cutler's craft.

The most notable cutler of this early period was Salomon de Laufare, or Salomon le Cotiller as his name usually appears, who figures prominently in City life from 1276 to 1308-9. In 1275-6 he witnessed, with the mayor, sheriffs, and others, a deed of feoffment. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 11943.) Salomon lived in the parish of St. Mildred, Walbrook (or Poultry), in a "capital messuage with garden" which he bought in January, 1281-2, for the very large sum of 100*l*. (*Husting Roll* 13, 39.) His name occurs in the City books in various connections in 1283, 1286, 1287, and 1287-8. (*Letter-Book A*, pp. 78, 166, 168-9.) He served the office of sheriff, with Fulke de St. Edmund as his junior colleague, in 1289-90. (*Ibid.*, p. 198.) In the following year (1290-1) he was one of the two "reputable" men (representing Cheap Ward) elected by common assent and consent of the whole commonalty for the City's account. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 1.) In December, 1291, he was one of four leading citizens elected by representatives of the whole commonalty to prosecute, together with the aldermen, on behalf of the City's estate against the lord the King, because it is in the King's hand. (*Ibid.*, p. 3.) A few days afterwards he formed one of a smaller body, composed of four aldermen and seven commoners "to prosecute the City's business and estate in the King's Council." (*Ibid.*, p. 4.) On Sunday before 15th August, 1292, he was elected one (the first named) of the four Wardens of the Conduit. (*Ibid.*, p. 9.)

Salomon de Laufare.

Elected Sheriff.

Early in 1294 he became Alderman of Broad Street Ward, in succession to Thomas de Estanes, being the fourth earliest known alderman of that ward. The date of this election does

Elected Alderman.

not appear, but he was acting as alderman on 22nd February, 1293-4. (Beaven's *Aldermen*, v. 1, pp. 70, 377.) His name now constantly occurs in the City books and other records. On the Thursday before Christmas, 1294, it was ordained that watch should be kept each night throughout the City by the warden, sheriffs, and aldermen. This was in addition to the usual watch kept by the wards, and a rota of the aldermen was arranged under which Salomon le Cotiller, with five colleagues, took duty on the fourth night. (*Letter-Book B*, pp. 240-1.) From a later record on Tuesday before 20th July, 1307, it appears that each alderman was allowed three horses for his night duty of keeping the peace of the City on horseback. (*Letter-Book C*, pp. 153-4.) Salomon ceased to be alderman probably at the end of 1308, for he officiated in that capacity on 4th November, 1308, and William Trente was elected Alderman of Broad Street in his room in 1309.

His will.

His will, undated, was enrolled on Monday before 12th March, 1311-12. (*Husting Roll* 40, 77.) He left to Isabella his wife, for life, shops, etc., in the Cutlery, London, and a solar extending from the entrance to the Conduit tavern up to the church of St. Thomas de Acon. To John de Laufare, one of his executors, his tenement in the parish of St. Mildred, apparently the capital messuage which John de Laufare, cutler, sold about five years later (*Ibid.* 41, 18 ; 44, 155), and which was charged with the maintenance of two chaplains in the said parish church. His tenements in the parishes of St. Bartholomew the Less, St. Lawrence in the Jewry, St. Mary de Alder-marichurche, and elsewhere, were sold to fulfil his testament and for pious uses. The will of his wife, who describes herself as Isabella, late wife of Salomon le Coteler, was enrolled on Monday before 28th October, 1312. (*Ibid.* 41, 20.) She is described as "of the parish of St. Mildred in the Poultry" (where her husband's shop and residence were situated), and

Resident in  
the  
"Cutlery."

His wife's  
will.



leaves to John de Wanegrave and Cristiana his wife a tenement in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less. (See also *Ibid.* 41, 52; 36, 13.) The tenement in St. Lawrence Jewry, with another in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, was sold by John de Laufare in 1312. (*Ibid.* 41, 19.)

The locality of the London "Cutlery," identified as above by the will of Salomon de Laufare in 1311-2, is revealed at a still earlier date by an incident which occurred in that neighbourhood. On 27th January, 1287-8, William de Coudre, cutler, who lived near the Conduit in Westcheap (the locality of the Cutlery), was summoned as one of two neighbours nearest the Conduit, to act as juror on an inquest upon one William le Taumer, skinner, who lay dead in Westcheap, near the Conduit. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 272.) The residence here of one cutler would not prove much, but it affords valuable confirmation of the fact stated nearly forty years later in Salomon de Laufare's will, that the London "Cutlery" was congregated at this spot.

William de  
Coudre.

A tragic incident occurred in 1278, in which William de London, a cutler, and a member of the de Laufare family, were concerned. On 19th May, 1278, an inquest was held on Henry de Laufare, who lay dead in the house of Sibil Feron, in the parish of Colcherche, in the ward of Cheape. The said Sibil, in whose house he died, was attached by John Patrick, cotiler, and John de Eddelmethone, cutler. It appears that the said Henry, whilst keeping guard over Richard de Codesfeld, who had taken sanctuary in the church of St. Mary de "Staniseslane" on account of being charged with robbery by William de London, a cutler, received a wound in the head from a lance at the hands of Thomas, the clerk of the said church, who struck him through a window of the church, so that he afterwards died. (*Ibid.*, p. 274.) Sibil Feron's house must have been either within the "Cutlery," or closely adjoining it; it was in the

William de  
London.

John Patrick

Geoffrey  
Patrick.

parish of St. Mary Colechurch, and the two cutlers who attached her were "nearest neighbours." William de London further appears as one of the sureties of Richard Mauntel in an undated record which occurs between two others dated respectively 1282 and 1313. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 14.) John Patrick, the cutler above-mentioned, lived in St. Mary Colechurch parish, the locality of the Cutlery. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 169.) In 1275-6 he witnessed a conveyance by Henry de Euere of a shop in St. Mary's parish. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 11943.) He bequeathed to his wife, Matilda (who was re-married to William de Gartone), his house in the parish of St. Pancras, to which his nephew Geoffrey in 1299 released all claim. (*Husting Roll* 31, 64.) This Geoffrey Patrick, cutler, was the son of John Patrick's brother William. He, also, was a resident in St. Mary Colechurch parish. In September, 1293, he sold some houses situated there. (*Ibid.* 27, 86.) His daughter Mary married John Kohns, citizen and potter, and in January, 1316-17, sold the property which she inherited from her father in St. Mary Colechurch parish. (*Ibid.* 45, 132.) John de Edelmeton the cutler above mentioned, whose will, dated Friday after 15th August, 1283, was enrolled in the following November, left his tenement in St. Mary Colechurch parish to his servant Geoffrey de Edelmeton, a cutler. (*Ibid.* 14, 122.) This house was sold by Geoffrey and his wife Isabel in August, 1309. (*Ibid.* 38, 4.)

Thomas le  
Coteler.

Thomas le Coteler (perhaps a relative of his namesake on p. 52) lived in Cornhill. His name occurs in connection with an inquest held on 19th May, 1278, as to the death of one Gilbert "Csloke," who accidentally fell into the Thames from London Bridge, and was found dead near the wharf of John of the Tower. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 273.) At the beginning of August in the same year, as we learn from an inquisition *post mortem*, one Walter Prate or Prat, of Retford, held land at Haddestock, from Thomas le Cutiler, of the value of 2*d.* yearly.



(*Inq. p.m.* Edw. I, file 19, no. 11.) In a lease of 24th September, 1318, granted by Hugh de Waltham, Common Clerk of the City, to Stephen atte Stouples, fishmonger, of a bakehouse, etc., opposite the pillory on Cornhill, the lessee covenants not to obstruct the windows of the cellar occupied by Thomas le Coteler, nor the light of the windows above it. (*Memorials*, p. 129.) Thomas was assessed in Cornhill Ward to the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-9), at 2s. (*Subs. Roll*, 144, 3.) On Wednesday before 2nd February, 1319-20, Thomas le Coteler served as one of the jury on a complaint by Laurance le Barbier (one of those sworn to keep the Poultry upon Cornhill) against John Bakon, poulterer, who was charged with being a common forestaller of poultry. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 113-4.) The fatality to Gilbert "Csloke," on 19th May, 1278, introduces two other cutlers besides Thomas le Cotiler just mentioned, viz., John le Noreys of Bridge Ward as one of the nearest neighbours, and Richard Scot, whose residence is not stated. In the same year we meet with Richard le Eschot, cutler (probably identical with Richard Scot), who was concerned on 1st September, 1278, in an inquiry into the death of Godfrey de Belstede in the parish of St. Michael le Quern. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 278.)

A cutler of  
Cornhill.

Richard  
Scot.

An influential member of the cutler's craft, variously known as Geoffrey le Cuteler, Geoffrey atte Conduit, and Geoffrey de Gedelestone comes first into notice in January, 1281-2. Under that date a charter was enrolled in the Court of Husting by which Geoffrey le Cuteler and Edith his wife granted to Adam de Hengham for "40s. in silver" their house in "Sacollelane," Holborn, at a rent of 1d. payable at Easter. (*Husting Roll* 13, 33.) Leaving the Fleet cutlers, he removed to the ward of Cheap, where he appears to have settled in the Cutlery by the Conduit, for he took one John Fleg as an apprentice in Cheap Ward in July, 1310 (*Letter-Book D*, p. 122); he was then described as Geoffrey de Getlestone, cutler. He was very

Geoffrey le  
Cuteler.

Sheriff and  
Alderman.

Another  
Geoffrey le  
Cotiler.

A Ruler of  
the Mistery.

Keeper of  
the Conduit.

probably the person who, as Geoffrey de Conduit, served the office of Sheriff in 1306-7 and was Alderman of Bridge Ward from 1307 to 1312. We lose sight of the name until 1320, when the records tell of a Geoffrey le Cotiller who led a busy City life for nearly thirty years onwards. He may have been a son of the alderman or (supposing them to have been different persons) of Geoffrey le Cotiller. On the Tuesday before 23rd April, 1320, the name of Geoffrey le Cotiler appears in the list of citizens who agreed to forego half their contribution to Edward II's loan. In the following June he was one of the appraisers of a large quantity of spear-heads sequestered for debt. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 129, 132.) On the Sunday before 20th November, 1325, he was one of the witnesses to an acquittance by Nicholas de Debeneye and Mary his wife, to the executors of Geoffrey de Brandone for property left to the aforesaid Mary by the testator her father. (*Ibid.*, pp. 207-8.) Geoffrey took part in an inquest in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch at the end of the following month. (*Coroners' Rolls E*, 11.) He was one of the seven Rulers or Guardians of the Cutlers' Mistery in 1328-9, and one of the eight men sworn in 1340 to safeguard everything belonging to the Craft. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 57.) On the Friday after 13th December, 1325, he was appointed custodian of the Conduit, with Henry de Ware and Benedict of the Guildhall as colleagues. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 205.) This post, being one of the highest responsibility, was conferred on none but men of great dignity and standing in the City. (*See ante*, p. 40.) Some years later (in November, 1337), Geoffrey, as a resident in the Cutlery near the Conduit, complained (with other neighbours) of the brewers who used the Conduit water for their trade purposes and so deprived the commonalty of their proper share of the supply. The measures taken by the mayor and aldermen to stop this encroachment have been already described (pp. 40-1). Geoffrey is the first-named of the



nine supervisors of the Cutlers' "Articles" of 1344, but probably fell a victim to the Great Pestilence in the summer of 1349. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 110.) It seems hardly possible that the Geoffrey of 1281-1310 can be the same as the cutler so-named of 1320-49; both, however, were men of importance in their day.

Supervisor  
of the  
"Articles."

Another contemporary cutler was Robert de Mareys, who, on the Wednesday after 29th June, 1285, acknowledged himself bound to John de Canterbury, blader, in the sum of 40s. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 89.) A later cutler of this name, Robert son of John de Mareys, acquired property in "Edelmeton" in 1312-3 which he seems to have held until 1328. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deeds 205, 184, 323, 240, 245.)

Robert de  
Mareys.

Walter de Chigwell, cutler, belonged to a family of importance in the City, Hamo de Chigwell being several times Mayor. He was perhaps a kinsman of Richard de Chigwell, who held land at Barking in the reign of Edward I. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deeds 1153, 1174.) On Sunday after 1st November, 1286, Walter de Chigwell acknowledged a debt of 44s. to William le Botover. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 100.) We learn more about him from another entry in the same Letter Book (p. 201), which records a deed, to which he was a party, as read before and witnessed by the warden of the City, the sheriffs, and others, on 12th March, 1293-4. This was a lease from Walter de Chigwell, cutler, and Margery his wife, daughter of William Munchyot (or Smychiot), smith, to Nicholas Pykot, merchant, of a tenement and shop in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, situate near the tenement of John de Bokton; to hold for a term of fourteen years, for 8*l.* in hand paid, and an annual rent of one mark to the nuns of St. John de Haliwell, and another mark by way of dower, to Clemence, late wife of Henry de Evre. In February, 1294-5, Walter de Chigwell and his wife released all their claim to the above property; among the witnesses to

Walter de  
Chigwell.

this deed are John de Elsingham and other cutlers. (*Husting Roll* 24, 53.) Henry de Euere, probably the person above-named, "late ironmonger of London," devised to John de Riplawe, ironmonger, a shop in St. Mary Colechurch parish, in 1276. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 11943.) This parish, which included the Cutlery, extended westward almost to Ironmonger Lane, which was then the locality of the ironmongers.

Simon le  
Cotiler.

Simon le Cotiler, who flourished in the reign of Edward I, is first mentioned early in 1291. In May of that year a grant was made to him and Katherine his wife by Simon de Sthurreye, rector of the church of Mondene, of the stone house separated from his own house, in the lane and parish of St. Andrew Huberd. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 1970.) On 29th June, 1297, he was one of the six representatives of the ward of Bridge at a meeting of the Council of the City. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 237.) He attended also in the above capacity on the Tuesday after Lady Day, 1299, when matters of great moment between the King and the City were considered. (*Letter-Book C*, pp. 37-8.) On Friday after 1st August, 1300, Simon le Coteler came before the mayor and aldermen and agreed on behalf of himself, his wife, and John and William his sons, that if he should receive the said John and William into his house, or in future maintain them in any way, he would surrender all right and claim to the house he held on London Bridge to the said Bridge. (*Ibid.*, p. 76.) Twice in 1301 he acted as surety for a witness summoned to give evidence in a case of murder. (*Coroners' Rolls A*, 6, 24.) Simon was dead in 1303, when his widow Katherine granted the stone house in the parish of St. Andrew Hubbard to William son of Nicholas Brawneys and his wife Alice. (*Husting Roll* 31, 67.)

A later Simon  
le Coteler.

It is possible that a later Simon le Coteler who was assessed in Bridge Ward for the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-19) at 5s. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 3), was his eldest son, and carried on his



business, but no evidence for this has been found. On Tuesday before 23rd April, 1320, the name of this later Simon occurs in the list of citizens who agreed to forego one half of the sum advanced by them towards the loan of 1,000*l.* made to King Edward II in the tenth year of his reign. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 127.) On Tuesday after 29th June, 1331, he was one of the first jury, composed of twelve of the best men of each ward, summoned to make inquisition and put a check upon the malignancy of the taverners of the City who had closed the doors of their taverns and would not allow their wines to be sold, in contempt of our lord the King. (*Ibid.*, p. 261.) He was now living in the ward of Farringdon, for in the subsidy of 6 Edward III (1332-3) he was assessed in that ward at 5*s.* 7*d.* (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 4.) In the same year he is described as of "Holebourne." (*De Banco Roll* 288, Hil.) Another record of Simon the Cutler is under date of Friday after 11th November, 1336, when he with four others was surety for Laurence de Dallyngge that he would faithfully serve Master John de Offord, Dean of Arches. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 304.) In the following year he was one of a jury summoned to inquire into the death of one John de Muldone. (*Coroners' Rolls F*, 33.)

On jury to  
check abuses  
of taverners.

Living in  
Farringdon  
Ward.

Paulus the Cotiller, of whom there is no other trace, appears in the Subsidy Roll (142, 2) of Edward I's reign (*circ.* 1291-4). He must have been a successful man, being assessed at 6*os.* in the ward of Dowgate.

Of Robert Deumars, cutler, whose guardianship by William de Laufare was mentioned above (p. 55), we learn that he was the son of John and Christiana Deumars. His father was probably a cutler, for he held a shop in Westcheap near the church of St. Thomas of Acon, the lease of which he left to his wife. He left to his son Robert his capital house in the parish of St. Mary Woolnoth, to his wife Christiana his next house by way of dower, and to his daughter Sibil a third house more

Robert  
Deumars.

remote. (*Husting Roll* 10, 23.) The will of John Deumars is undated, but was enrolled on 29th May, 1279, and young Robert was then a minor and under guardianship. He died before reaching his majority, and William de Laufare rendered an account of his trust to the young man's relatives in June, 1291. By his will, enrolled on Monday before 25th January, 1291-2 (*Ibid.* 21, 2), Robert left to his mother his tenements in St. Mary Woolnoth. On proclamation being made, the will was challenged by Robert Deumars, corder, on the ground that the testator was not of full age to make a testament, and was *non compos mentis*. The wills of several members of this family, who were mostly corders (or rope-makers) are enrolled in the Court of Husting.

At the close of the thirteenth century are found a few names of London cutlers of whom very little information exists. On Tuesday after 25th March, 1291, Richard de Westwode acknowledged himself with others jointly bound to Martin Furner in the sum of 6*l*. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 130.) Richard seems to have been connected with Peasmore, Berks, where his son William held land in the reign of Edward II. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deeds 7146, 7147, 7196, 7209.) On 13th October, 1312, he and John de Waltham, another cutler, severally acknowledged a debt of 100*s*. to Adam de Massheberi. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 51.) William de la Foreste entered into a similar recognisance before the Aldermen on 25th May, 1292, in respect of a joint obligation to Alan de Alleston, potter, in the sum of 4*l*. 4*s*. (*Letter-Book A*, p. 141.)

Adam the Cutler, perhaps a son of the former Adam (See p. 52), is mentioned as a legatee in the will of William de Somersete, clerk, enrolled on Monday after 25th November, 1296. (*Husting Roll* 26, 15.) Ralph Russell, cutler, by his will, enrolled on 21st May, 1297, leaves to Henry Merlawe, also a cutler, his tenement in the parish of St. Christopher. (*Ibid.*



26, 37; 42, 10.) An earlier deed shows that he had an interest in this property in February, 1271-2. (*Ibid.* 4, 151.) A Roger le Cotiller, who must be distinguished from the grandson of Jordan le Cotiler (*See* p. 53), was one of the sureties (on 7th April, 1310) of Robert Asseborne, cutler, for payment of the rent of a brewhouse in Fleet Street. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 184.) This was shortly before his death, for in March, 1312, his wife Alicia and John le Joygnour, to whom she was then married, released to Adam de Forsham their right to a tenement in St. Margaret Lothbury parish, which she and Roger her former husband had acquired from Richard the son of Richard le Kissere. (*Husting Roll* 40, 111.)

Roger le  
Cotiller.

Walter de Enefeld (Enfield), citizen and cutler, received from Roger de Merton and his wife Ellen by deed enrolled in February, 1278-9, in the Court of Husting (*Roll* 10, 20\*), the grant of a rent-charge of 40s., paying for all services a pair of gauntlets worth 2d. at Easter. This property he transferred in 1297 to Thomas, son of the late Martin, clerk, of Iseldon. (*Ibid.* 38, 61.) All that is known of Thomas Hatteman, cutler, is his grant, in 1284, to Adam de Blakeney of houses in Candlewick Street, which came to his wife Roysia as a dower from her former husband, John de Wynton. (*Ibid.* 15, 2.) Hatteman and his wife further granted to Adam de Blakeney, in 1286, a rent-charge of two marks upon the same property, on payment of a rose on St. John the Baptist's day. (*Ibid.* 16, 97.)

Walter de  
Enfield.

Eustace le Cotiler, who lived in the parish of St. Martin Orgar, near London Bridge, was active in City affairs. As one of the six representatives of Bridge Ward, he was present at an assembly of the City Council on 29th June, 1297 (*Letter-Book B*, p. 237), and four years later he acted as surety for a witness in a coroner's inquest. (*Coroners' Rolls A*, 12.) On Tuesday after 25th January, 1306-7, he was one of a jury empanelled to make a return and valuation of the property of

Eustace le  
Cotiler.

Walter le Mazerer, son of Luke le Ayller. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 243.) He seems to have prospered in his trade, for in the year 1305 he acquired no less than three separate tenements, a messuage and shop in the parish of St. Leonard, Eastcheap, and two houses in the parish of St. Martin Orgar. (*Husting Rolls* 33, 67, 110; 34, 2.) His will, undated, was enrolled on Monday before 25th January, 1308-9. (*Husting Roll* 37, 63.) He leaves to Peter, his son, houses in the lane and parish of St. Martin Orgar for life, with remainder to Alice his wife for life, and further remainder to pious uses for the good of the souls of the said Alice and Peter and of Emma his late wife. Alice survived Eustace as his widow for at least forty years, and in 1348 with Peter's consent sold her interest in the property in the parish of St. Martin Orgar. (*Ibid.* 74, 55, 65, 70.)

His will.

Henry de  
Merlawe.

Henry de Merlawe served both the City and his craft. He first appears as assessed at 10s. for the subsidy in Edward I's reign (*circ.* 1291-4) as an inhabitant of Broad Street Ward (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 2), but in 1311-12 he was carrying on his business in the Cutlery, his shop being next to the shop of Salomon de Laufare. (*Husting Roll* 40, 77.) On Friday after 6th May, 1300, he took part, with other leading citizens, in an assembly of the mayor, aldermen, and commonalty of the City. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 68.) On Saturday after 25th July, 1302, Laurence de Totenham, corder, and Roysia his wife, acknowledged receipt from Henry de Merlawe and his fellow-executors of 100s., a legacy from the lady's mother, Roysia la Spicere. On 1st May, 1303, Henry de Merlawe and William de Laufare, his co-executor, received a further acquittance in the above executorship. (*Letter-Book B*, pp. 117, 125-6.) On 26th March, 1303, Merlawe, with Adam Boctone, coffrer, was surety for Roger de Evere, ironmonger, who was appointed by the mayor and aldermen guardian of John, son of Henry de Waldegrave. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 120.) He was one of the jury to make



inquisition as to the property of two debtors, Ralph de "Boctone" and Adam de "Boktone"; the entry is undated, but seems to belong either to 1310 or 1311. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 295.) He also acted as a juror on an inquiry respecting a claim by the Prior of Merton in 6 Edward II (1312-13) to a quit-rent on certain tenements in the parish of St. Antonin. (*Ibid.*, p. 190.) On 1st May, 1312, he witnessed an indenture between Cristiana de Evre and Nicholas Pikot concerning property in the parishes of Little St. Bartholomew and St. Christopher. (*Ibid.*, p. 288.) His will, undated, was enrolled on Monday after 13th October, 1313. (*Husting Roll* 42, 10.) He was either related to, or an apprentice or servant of, Ralph Russell, who bequeathed to him a tenement in St. Christopher's parish. (*See* p. 66.) This house he left to Agnes his wife for life, with remainder as to one moiety to pious uses, and the residue to his children in equal portions. (*See also Husting Rolls* 32, 14; 47, 23.) His widow married William de Dorkyng, and on Friday after 18th October, 1318, the mayor granted to her and her husband the guardianship of Walter, William, and Alice, the children of her former husband. On 17th March, 1321-2, Walter de Merlawe, being of full age, claimed his property, and received from William de Dorkyng the sum of 100s.; on 11th June, 1330, Alice de Merlawe received her property also, being proved to be of full age. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 91-2.)

His will.

At the beginning of the fourteenth century a curious interchange of apprenticeship took place between two families. John, son of Saman the knifsmith of Cornhill Ward, having been apprenticed for a term of ten years to Stephen atte Holte, was admitted to the freedom before the mayor and aldermen on 5th March, 1309-10, and paid his fee of 2s. 6d. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 41b.) A year later, on Saturday before 7th March, 1311-12, John, son of Saman, the newly-made freeman, took as his apprentice John atte Holte, the son of his former master,

John, son of  
Saman the  
Knifsmith.

for a term of two years from Easter, and paid the fee of 2s. 6d. (*Ibid.*, p. 167.) This record, printed on pages 353-4, affords the earliest evidence extant of admission to the cutlery trade. John atte Holte's binding to John, son of Saman, must have been a "turn-over" from another master (probably deceased) for the remainder of his term. Stephen atte Holte, who is sometimes described as knifsmith, lived in a house belonging to John de Elsyngham, knifsmith, in Birchin Lane, Cornhill. He, John de Elsyngham, and other cutlers, were among the witnesses to a deed concerning property in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, in February, 1294-5. (*Husting Roll* 24, 53.) On the Monday after 8th September, 1305, he acknowledged a debt of 60s. to William de Leyre, Alderman, and on 23rd February, 1304-5, he, with two other cutlers, Michael de Wymbihs and Andrew de Stebenheth (Stepney), were jointly indebted in the sum of 71s. to John Sterre, fishmonger. (*Letter-Book B*, pp. 160, 149.) On 2nd January, 1305-6, the latter two cutlers acknowledged a further obligation (afterwards discharged) to the same John "Starre." (*Ibid.*, p. 164.) In April, 1323, Stephen atte Holte and his wife Matilda made over their interest in the Cornhill property to Walter atte Holte, cutler, and his wife Amicia. (*Husting Roll* 51, 120.) In 1325, only two years later, Stephen was dead, and his wife and Walter, Stephen's executors, jointly conveyed the house in Bercheruerlane (Birchin Lane), Cornhill, to Thomas, the son of John de Elsingham, the original owner. (*Ibid.* 54, 94.) On the death of Walter atte Holte the house was sold by his widow Amicia, in 1341, to one John Levelif, citizen and draper. (*Ibid.* 69, 95.) Another Stephen atte Holte appears in November, 1341, who is described as a timbermonger and purchasing houses and shops in "Bercheruereslane" from Godfrey de Clavinger. (*Ibid.* 68, 133; 78, 108.)

Another resident in the Cutlery was John de Mimmes. In the will of Dionisia Norman, his wife, daughter of Roger Norman,



late goldbeater, he is described as "le Cutteler at the Conduit." The will is undated, but was enrolled on 4th June, 1305. (*Husting Roll* 33, 59.) It would seem that John de Mimmes was then dead, for the lady leaves bequests to maintain a chantry for the good of her soul and the souls of John her husband, Roger and Alice, her father and mother, William her son, Amicia, her daughter, and others, in the church of St. Alban, Wood Street, for the space of one year. John was probably related to Thomas de Mymmes (will enrolled 1279) and John de Memmes, clerk, son of the above (will enrolled 1292), who lived in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch. (*Ibid.* 10, 39; 21, 51.) Of Peter the Cutler, all that is known comes from a deed of limitation of metes and bounds of "Medelane" (elsewhere described as being in the parish of St. James Garlickhithe), where he appears as one of the witnesses; the deed is undated, but occurs between entries dated May and September, 1306. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 150.)

An entry of much interest is found in the City's books early in 1310. On Thursday before 2nd February, 1309-10, Adam de Thakstede, coteler, was admitted to the freedom of the City before the mayor and aldermen, and paid a fee of one mark, being resident in the ward of Cheap. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 46.) Thaxted, an ancient parish in Essex, nineteen miles from Chelmsford and eleven miles from Bishop's Stortford, had an important cutlery trade in early times. Adam de Thaxted having learnt and practised his trade in his native parish, had prospered sufficiently to be able to set up in the London Cutlery (for he is described as of Cheap Ward), having obtained his freedom by purchase.

Adam de  
Thaxted.

Most of the cutlers now to be mentioned are known to have been connected with the early management of the Craft, a subject dealt with in the previous chapter. John de Laufare, a legatee, and perhaps the son, of Salomon de Laufare (p. 58), was

John de  
Laufare.

a prominent member of the Mistery of Cutlers. On 7th March, 1302-3, the King (Edward I) directed the mayor and sheriffs to cause the Rolls of the Husting to be searched with reference to a claim made by Walter de Wyk and Matilda his wife against John de Laufare as to his right of entry into a certain messuage the locality of which is not mentioned. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 129.) As co-executor with John de Westode of John de Bristoll', John de Laufare received on Monday after 13th December, 1308, an obligation for payment of 85 marks by William de Finchinfeld, Robert le Maderman, and Peter de Blakeneye. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 208.) In 1311-12 he granted by deed to Hugh de Garton the land with houses thereon which he had of the gift of Isable de la Lynde, in the parish of St. Peter in Bradstrete, between the King's highway and the ditch of Walbroke. He was one of the eight men sworn on Monday after 25th November, 1340, to safeguard everything belonging to the Craft (*Letter-Book F*, p. 57), and in the same year was supervisor of the will of Stephen Page, cutler. (*Husting Roll 67*, 97.) In August or September, 1344, he was elected by the Craft one of the nine Wardens or supervisors of the "Articles of the Cutlers," but was dead in November, 1349, a victim probably of the Black Death. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 110.) On Friday after 11th November, 1348, Alice, widow of John de Laufare, became guardian of Robert, Simon, and Richard, children of her late husband, and six sureties (including John de Thrillowe and John de Flete, cutlers) were accepted for her safe keeping of the children's portions. (*Ibid.*, p. 185.)

A Warden of  
the Craft.

Ralph le  
Cotiller.

Ralph le Cotiller, known also as Ralph de Flete, lived in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, which a century or two later became the principal centre of the London cutlery trade. In January, 1302-3, he witnessed the conveyance of a house in Fleet Street. (*Husting Roll 41*, 59.) On 2nd August, 1307, he formed one of a panel of twenty-one jurymen, thirteen of



whom were sworn to hold an inquisition as to who should repair the broken pavement near Fleet Bridge. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 240.)

On Friday after 1st November, 1318, he witnessed the lease of a tenement near Fleet Bridge, and on 22nd February, 1322-3, he was one of the witnesses to the grant of a quit-rent from another tenement in St. Bride's parish. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 97, 177.)

A Fleet  
Bridge cutler

He was at this time possessed of property in the same parish consisting of a messuage, garden, and three shops which he had received from Henry le Chandler and his wife Alice (probably his father-in-law and mother-in-law) in 1315 (*Husting Rolls* 43, 101; 64, 157; 44, 18, 152), and in the following year he acquired land and houses in the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn. (*Ibid.* 45, 117.) He was assessed for half a mark in Farringdon Without Ward in the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-9), and at 12d. there in the subsidy of 6 Edward III (1332-3). (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 3-4.)

Ralph was one of the seven cutlers elected and sworn for the government and instruction of the Mistery in 1328-9. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 233.) At an earlier date (1325) he had been concerned, either as surety or juror, in certain inquests. (*Coroners' Rolls* D, 34; E, 2.) It is possible that he also owned property in Dowgate Ward, where "Ralph le Cotiller" was assessed at 20d. in 1318-19. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 3.)

An Overseer  
of the  
Mistery.

In the same Roll occurs the name of "dna. Agn. le Cotiller," who was assessed in Walbrook Ward at 33s. 4d., very few of the other inhabitants of the ward contributing more or as much. Who the Lady Agnes, cutler, was does not appear, but from the fact that Ralph le Cotiller had a daughter Agnes and that she and her sister Alice were both described as "la Coteler" or "Coteler," it may be conjectured that they belonged to the same family.

Who the Lady Agnes, cutler, was does not appear, but from the fact that Ralph le Cotiller had a daughter Agnes and that she and her sister Alice were both described as "la Coteler" or "Coteler," it may be conjectured that they belonged to the same family.

Lady Agnes  
le Cotiller.

Ralph died in or before 1337, leaving two sons, Henry and John. John, the younger, followed his father's calling, and also settled in Fleet Street where he held his father's property which

Alice la  
Coteler.

Will of  
Agnes Cote-  
ler.

John de  
Flete.

his elder brother Henry surrendered to him. (*Husting Rolls* 64, 152, 157 ; 65, 62.) Both were dead, apparently childless, in 1350, when the lands of their father had descended to their sisters Alice "la Coteler" and Agnes. (*Husting Roll* 78, 105.) Agnes "Coteler" did not long survive her brothers ; she died in 1351, leaving bequests to the church of St. Bride and desiring to be buried in its churchyard. The tenements in that parish which she inherited from Ralph le Coteler her father were directed to be sold for pious uses ; some curious particulars of her wardrobe are contained in her will. (*Ibid.* 79, 107.) Alice, who seems to have survived her, had already parted with her share of the family inheritance in Fleet Street. (*Ibid.* 80, 87.) We meet with another Agnes, also unwedded and the daughter of a cutler, in 1309. In that year Agnes de Rothing', daughter of John le Koteler, deceased, granted to William de Hendon and his wife Sabina all her right in a house in "Sakollane" (Seacoal Lane) in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate ; the property is described as the house which was formerly the forge of the aforesaid John my father, with a certain house adjoining suitable for burning lime, and a plot of land belonging to the said house. (*Ibid.* 38, 25.) John de Flete, cutler, who was a colleague of Ralph de Flete in the inquisition of 1307, cannot have been the same person as Ralph's son above-named, but may have been a relative. He was a supervisor of the "Articles" of 1344, and was one of Alice de Laufare's sureties in 1348 (p. 72) ; he was dead in November, 1349. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 110.) He appears to have had a son, Robert, for in a lease granted in February, 1355-6, by Richard Sherman to Henry Douvedale and Matilda his wife the property is described as "land and houses situate near the gaol of Neugate and the tenement of William de Langeford, knt., in the parish of St. Sepulchre, and formerly belonging to Robert, son of John le Coteller de Holbourne." (*Letter-Book G*, p. 51.)



A little group of cutlers now comes under notice of whom very little information exists. John de Elsyngham, knifsmith, John de Elsyngham. whose will was enrolled on the Monday before 12th March, 1311-12 (*Husting Roll* 40, 79), left certain rents in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, to be sold for providing a chantry in the said parish church for the good of his soul and the soul of Johanna his wife. His executor was John de Ware, hafter. (*See* p. 19.) William Fyniel de Windsore, described as a sword smith (*gladiarius*), William Fyniel. was admitted to the freedom by the mayor and aldermen on payment of 10s. on Tuesday after 11th July, 1310, in the ward of Candlewick (*Letter-Book D*, p. 54); he was one of the London Bridge group of cutlers. Another country cutler, Robert de "Gypeswic," (Ipswich) came to settle in London, and was admitted to the freedom before two aldermen on Saturday before 7th March, 1311-12. (*Ibid.*, p. 85.) Robert de Asseborne, cotiller, Robert de Asseborne. was interested also in brewing. On 7th April, 1310, he found sureties before the chamberlain, viz., John le meneter de Fletestrete, William atte Peke, Roger le Cotiller, and John Bogays, baker, for the payment to Thomas le Chapeler de Flete of rent of a brewhouse in Fletestrete. (*Ibid.*, p. 184.) Another cutler had to leave his trade to fight for his king against the Scots. On 21st November, 1314, a writ was directed to the mayor and sheriffs to provide arbalesters for the defence of Berwick; among the arbalesters so provided was John le Cotiller. John le Cotiller. (*Ibid.*, p. 309.) A John le Cotiler, perhaps the same man, was assessed at 2s. in Cripplegate Within Ward for Edward I's subsidy (*circ.* 1291-4), at 20d. in Farringdon Without Ward in 1318-19 for the subsidy of 12 Edward II, and at 16d. in Cheap Ward for the subsidy of 6 Edward III. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 2, 3, 4.) He seems to have been also connected with Farringdon Within Ward, being one of the neighbours called upon to appear at the inquest, in June, 1325, after the murder of Nicholas atte Mulle, gatekeeper of Newgate prison. (*Coroners' Rolls D*, 33.)

Gilbert  
Dunston.

Gilbert Dunston, cutler, is met with in the will of Margery, daughter of Adam le Chaundler, enrolled on Monday after 18th October, 1315. (*Husting Roll* 44, 26.) The testatrix bequeaths to him a tenement devised to her by her mother Cristina at Billingesgate in the parish of St. Mary atte Hulle, charged with the payment of twenty-four marks for the maintenance of a chantry. Little is known of John Brown, knifesmith, and his wife Christina de Claverynge, except that they held land and houses in " Bercheuerelane," in the parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, in 1318. (*Ibid.* 47, 17, 47.) John Pykerel, cutler, and his wife Cicely de Ryponn, daughter of Stephen Raskel, released, in 1313, their right to a stone house in a locality not specified. (*Ibid.* 42, 23.) Another cutler, William de Heston, is only known by his purchase, in January, 1313-14, of a plot of ground with buildings thereon in Sporiers' Lane in the parish of All Saints, Barking. He sold the property in February, 1315-16. (*Ibid.* 42, 81; 44, 122.) Also of Adam de Wotton, cutler, the sole record is a conveyance of his share in a tenement in the parish of St. Botolph, Aldgate, on the feast of Pentecost, 1316. (*Ibid.* 44, 142.)

John de  
Westwode.

Of John de Westwode, who lived in Lothbury, we have no information until within the last few years of his life. On 16th December, 1308, he appears as executor (jointly with John de Lauvare, afterwards one of his own executors) of John de Bristoll. (*Letter-Book B*, p. 208.) He was on the jury (in 1310 ?) to inquire as to the property of the Boktones (*See* p. 69); on 21st December, 1310, he stood with others as surety for John Maheu, coffrer, guardian of the children of John le Plater, who was found indebted to his wards, and was thereupon committed to prison until he had made satisfaction. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 187.) By his will, enrolled on Monday before 12th March, 1311-12 (*Husting Roll* 40, 75), he left his house upon Lodebury to Agnes his wife for life, with remainder (1) to John his son

His will.



and Salerna his daughter in successive tail; (2) to the maintenance of chantries in the church of St. Margaret Lothbury. He also left his daughter another tenement upon Lodebury in tail, remainder to Richard son of Richard de Westwode in tail, remainder to pious uses. To the Warden of the Friars Minors for the time being 100s. for pious uses. (*See also Husting Roll* 68, 123, 124.) The connection of the family with the Cutlers' Fellowship was of long continuance. One Edward Westwode was apprenticed to John Robyns in 1476-7.

William Cuteler and Agnes his wife were concerned with John Robyn and Dionysia his wife in some property at Staines in 13 Edward I (1284-5). The above reference is from the *Feet of Fines* for that year (No. 135), but it is by no means clear that this William Cuteler is the same as William le Coteler to whom the following particulars relate. On Monday before 2nd February, 1300-1, he served on a jury to inquire as to the lands and tenements of Thomas Prest, goldsmith, as to payment of money due on a recognizance to William Everard. (*Letter-Book C*, p. 86.) From a list of rents of the Chamber, undated, but apparently of the beginning of the fourteenth century, it appears that William le Coteler held a shop belonging to the City without Ludgate at a yearly rent of 18s., afterwards (at Michaelmas, 1313) increased to 20s. (*Ibid.*, p. 237.) On Wednesday after Christmas, 1310, certain prominent citizens were elected and sworn to keep the gates and ports of the City against the exportation of victuals, etc., to Scotland, except for the use of some English magnate in the King's army; William le Coteler was one of the six chosen to guard Newgate. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 241.) A William de Flete (probably William le Coteler) was one of the City's representatives in the Parliaments of 1316, 1318, and 1319. On Christmas Eve, 1317, he was one of the witnesses to a lease by Thomas Drynkewatre, taverner, to James Beauflur, vintner, of a tavern situate at the

William le  
Coteler.

Resident at  
Ludgate.

M.P. for  
City.

head of London Bridge in the parish of St. "Olof." (*Letter-Book E*, p. 38.) He was assessed in Farringdon Without Ward at 3s. 4d. for the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-19), and at 6s. 8d. in the same ward for the subsidy of 6 Edward III (1332-3). His name (or that of a namesake) appears also in the former subsidy as assessed at 5s. in Bridge Ward (*Subsidy Roll 144*, 3, 4), where at this date William "le Cotiler de Bridge" was the owner of a tenement and shops in Bridge Street in the parish of St. Magnus. (*Husting Roll 47*, 20, 31.) It is quite possible that he held property in both wards. On Tuesday before 23rd April, 1320, he agreed, with other citizens, to forego one-half of his contribution towards the loan of 1,000*l.* to King Edward II. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 128.) He served as juror at an inquest in 1325 (*Coroners' Roll E*, 2), and on Saturday before 25th January, 1334-5, he was one of a jury to inquire as to the property owned by Richard, son of Laurence le Long, a minor. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 268.) His wife, Julianne, received a bequest of 40s. from her father, Thomas Edmund, fishmonger, under his will dated 19th April, 1335, and enrolled in July following. (*Husting Roll 63*, 63.) If all the above references relate to the same William le Cotiller, he must have been twice married.

John de  
Pelham.

John de Pelham, one of the cutlers settled near the River Fleet, lived outside Ludgate. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 101.) On 3rd June, 1316, he was one of four sureties of Amicia (or Avicia), widow of Robert le Chaundeler, to whom was entrusted by the mayor and aldermen the guardianship of her son Ralph. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 67-8.) In 1328-9 he was one of the seven officials elected and sworn in the Mistery of Cutlers for the government and instruction of that Mistery. (*Ibid.*, p. 233.) On Saturday before 25th January, 1334-5, a John de Pelham was one of the jury making inquisition as to the property of Richard, son of Laurence le Long. (*Ibid.*, p. 268.) He died before 4th May,

A Ruler of  
the Mistery.



1345, on which day the guardianship of his daughter Margery was committed to John de Sloughtre, whose sureties were Nicholas le Sporiere and Adam de Skipton, horner. His tenement outside Ludgate was of the yearly value of 40s., but charged with the payment of 8s. to John de Rodenhale, knt., and of 2s. to the church of St. Martin, Ludgate. (*Letter-Book F*, pp. 120-1.)

William atte Gate, who was one of the rulers of the craft both in 1328-9 and 1340, took part in an assembly of the mayor, aldermen, and principal citizens on 11th November, 1320, when a letter of Privy Seal from the King was read complaining that a pension of 100s. granted at his request to Robert de Foxtone was in arrear. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 137.) The name of William Billok, cutler, occurs in a deed dated Monday after 11th November, 1323. The deed is a release by Billok and Margery his wife, daughter and heir of William Osebern, formerly citizen and barber of London, to William de Stanford, citizen of London, and William de Orlions, sharegrinder, of the tenement that was Osebern's by Ebbegate in the parish of St. Laurence of Candlewykstrete, London. (*Anc. Deeds A*, 1618.) Attached to this deed is Billok's seal inscribed "S. Willi Billok"; in the centre is a star of six points. (*See illustration*, p. 139.)

William atte  
Gate.

William  
Billok.

An action for debt in 1320 discloses some curious information about cutlery handicraft. The story is told as follows: On 23rd June in that year, 780 spearheads of iron and not gilt, and 91 gilt heads were appraised, viz., at 2s. a dozen heads gilt, and not gilt 16s. a hundred, on account of a certain recognizance made in January, whereby William de Croidon, cotiller, acknowledged a debt of thirty pounds to Adam de Masschebury, cotiller, which he ought to have paid at the following Pentecost, and failed to pay. Wherefore the said heads had been sequestered as well as other property found in the house of John de Parys, corder, tenanted by the said William, which property,

William de  
Croidon.

comprising knives and clubs, was claimed by Hugh de Croidon, cotiller. And be it known that the aforesaid heads were appraised by Mankin le Heaumer, Gillot le Hauberger, Hugh le Fourbour, Reginald le Hauberger, Bartholomew le Cotiller, Geoffrey le Cotiller, etc. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 132.) Nothing more is known of the William de Croidon above-mentioned, but both he and Adam de Masschebury must have been wealthy men, as the business transaction amounted to thirty pounds, a very large sum at that time. Hugh de Croidon, who claimed the knives and clubs, was perhaps a relative of the defaulting William.

Adam de  
Masschebury

Three other cutlers mentioned in this interesting record were men of importance in their day. Adam de Masschebury, the wealthy cutler, is first met with on 15th June, 1310, when he took as his apprentice Ralph, son of William Weld. (*Letter-Book D*, p. 120.) He was assessed at 20s. in the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-19) as an inhabitant of the ward of "Cordwainerstrete." (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 3.) In August, 1319, he and his wife Isabel, for services not mentioned but no doubt of considerable importance, received a life grant from the Abbot and Convent of Westminster of a daily dole of three white Convent loaves and two gallons of Convent ale, which they might take at their will once or twice a week, and in London or elsewhere. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deed 5911; printed at length on pp. 233-4, and the seal figured at p. 139.) Adam de Masschebury possessed much property in various City parishes. (*Husting Rolls* 51, 31; 77, 47, 248; 78, 108, 110.) By his will enrolled on Monday before 25th March, 1326-7, he left to his brother Robert a robe and an annuity of two marks. All his lands, rents, and tenements he left to Adam his son, in tail, remainder to pious uses. He appointed Benedict de Fulsham and John de Mokingg to have the wardship of the said Adam until he came of age, they giving sufficient security

Grant of a  
corrody.

His will.





for the same at the Guildhall, according to the custom of the City of London relating to orphans. (*Ibid.* 55, 23.) Benedict de Fulsham, one of the guardians, was sheriff in 1324-5, alderman from 1327 to 1368, and M.P. for the City in 1327 and 1337. On 20th February, 1343-4, a general release was granted by Adam, son of Adam de Masschebury to Benedict de Fulsham in respect of his father's will, and a reciprocal release was granted to the young heir by Benedict de Fulsham. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 95.)

Bartholomew le Cotiller, one of the appraisers of William de Croidon's goods, lived in the Cutlery. He witnessed a conveyance of property in that locality in September, 1322 (*Husting Roll* 51, 31), and took part in an inquest there in December, 1325. (*Coroners' Rolls E*, 11.) He was one of the seven Rulers of the Mistery appointed in 1328-9. On Saturday after 1st August, 1327, he became a surety for Henry de Ware, who was elected by good men of the vicinity of the Conduit, and sworn Warden of the Conduit by the mayor and aldermen. (*Letter-Book E*, pp. 220-1.) On Friday before 13th December, 1334, he took part in certain proceedings against William de Bronne, ironmonger, one of the sureties for John de Comptone, fishmonger, who had failed in his duties as guardian of the children of Paulin Turk. (*Ibid.*, pp. 293-5.) His intimacy with the de Ware family makes it probable that he was the same person as Bartholomew de Gedlestone who, in 1317, was trustee under the will of John de Ware, hafter, who owned a house in the parish of St. Mildred, Poultry. (*Husting Roll* 46, 63.) His name is also associated with Geoffrey de Gedelesone, to whom he was probably related. (*See* p. 61.)

Bartholomew le Cotiller.

A Ruler of the Mistery.

Otherwise Bartholomew de Gedlestone.

Robert le Cotiler, also known as Robert de Ponte, was assessed at 2s. 6d. in the Ward of Bridge for the subsidy of 12 Edward II (1318-9). He was one of the seven men elected and sworn to oversee the Cutlers' Mistery in 1328-9; his name

Robert le Cotiler.

also appears in connection with a coroner's inquest in 1339. (*Coroners' Rolls G*, 27.) A Robert Coteller, of later date, witnessed a conveyance of a house in St. Mary Colechurch parish in February, 1368-9. (*Husting Roll 97*, 72.) In the first year of Edward III's reign (1327-8), the name of a cutler, one Ralph Pykeman, is found among the quota supplied by Bridge Ward to the City contingent sent to fight for the King against the Scots. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll 1*, 9.) Another member of the craft was Henry le Cotiller; there is abundant evidence of his services at City inquests, but no other record. From February, 1336, to September, 1339, he served five times as juror in the Tower Ward, and acted twice as surety in its neighbourhood. (*Coroners' Rolls F*, 7, 13; *G*, 1, 3, 25, 33; *H*, 2.) John atte Nasshe, another of the seven overseers of 1328-9, cannot be further identified. The will of John de Mondene, cutler, dated Tuesday after 29th August, 1332, was enrolled in the following November. (*Husting Roll*, 60, 138.) He leaves to his son Walter an annual quitrent of 30s. from a tenement called "Atte Hole" within Newgate, situate opposite the church of the Friars Minors, and appoints Matilda his wife as guardian of his son until his coming of age.

Henry le  
Cotiller.

John de  
Mondene.

Stephen le  
Cotiller.

Stephen le Cotiller was assessed at 40*d.* in the subsidy granted to Edward I between 1291 and 1294, and was then living in Walbrook Ward. (*Subsidy Roll 144*, 2.) He, or another cutler of the same name, lived in or near Lawrence Lane, within a stone's throw of the Cutlery at the Conduit, and was assessed in Coleman Street Ward for the Subsidy of 6 Edward III (1332-3) at 32*d.* (*Ibid.* 144, 4.) On Friday before 2nd February, 1336-7, he was one of the jury which tried John le Whyte de Cauntebrigge, skinner, who was found guilty of burglary in St. Laurence Lane, and sentenced to be hanged. (*Letter-Book E*, p. 289.) On Saturday before 25th November, 1337, he was on a jury to inquire into a complaint made against

Lived, or  
held pro-  
perty, near  
the Conduit.



Richard de Gaunt, late keeper of the Conduit, of concealing goods and other things, such as lead, etc., belonging to the Conduit. (*Memorials*, pp. 201-2; *Letter-Book F*, p. 29 n.) On Thursday after 30th November, 1337, he was surety for Philip Gentil, senior, who was bound before the mayor and aldermen to answer for the property demised by Walter le Ussher, tanner, to his daughters. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 5.) In March, 1338-9, he was a juryman at the inquest on William Lauleye of Luton, who met with his death near the Conduit, and three months later he was summoned as a neighbour to an inquest concerning a death which occurred in the "High Street" of the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury. (*Coroners' Rolls G*, 16, 36.) On the Monday after April, 1338, his name appears, with those of Philip Gentil and four other citizens of Coleman Street Ward, in a list of principal citizens chosen from each ward and sworn to defend the City. King Edward III, being about to cross the sea, summoned before himself and his council the mayor and aldermen, who were asked whether they would safeguard the City on behalf of the King, as the inheritance of the mayor and citizens. In compliance with the King's command they presented a scheme in writing, which the King approved, for the patrol of the City day and night by six, eight, or twelve of the best men of each ward. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 22.) He is last found as witness to a grant relating to property in St. Lawrence Jewry parish on the "morrow of St. Trinity," 1339. (*Husting Roll 66*, 44.)

A leading citizen in Coleman Street Ward.

Stephen Page, cutler, became surety, with two others, on Thursday after 25th April, 1339, for John de Refham, fishmonger, to whom was committed by the Mayor and Aldermen the guardianship of William, son of Ralph atte Rothe. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 35.) He bought a house in 1329 in the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury, and also additional ground. (*Husting Rolls 56*, 25; *61*, 14; *67*, 97.) His will, dated Monday after

Stephen Page.

Curious  
provisions of  
his will.

29th June, 1340, and enrolled on 25th July following (*Ibid.* 67, 63) is of much interest. He leaves to Katherine his daughter, wife of Robert Coteller, four marks and all his implements of the craft (*officium*) of "cotellerie," and the remaining terms of Robert and John, his apprentices. His tenement in St. Margaret Lothbury parish, together with all his goods and chattels, to be sold, and the proceeds, after provision for payment of his debts and for masses, to be divided equally between Marion his wife and Richard and John his sons. He appointed Marion, his wife, guardian of John, and Robert Coteler guardian of Richard during their minority. That a woman should be engaged in a trade or handicraft was not at all unusual, but it is singular that Page should have left his business to his daughter and not to his wife. Perhaps Katherine had been helping him, his sons being young, during his lifetime, and very probably her husband was the cutler (by trade as well as by name) mentioned on p. 81. Laurence le Cotiller is mentioned only in connection with a coroner's inquest in Bishopsgate in May, 1340. (*Coroners' Rolls* H, 29.) He may perhaps be the same as Laurence de Stebbenheth (Stepney), cutler, who with his wife Alice and John their son, acquired, in July, 1344, a tenement within the precinct of St. Katherine by the Tower. (*Husting Roll* 71, 80.) Alice, Laurence's widow, was again married; and in February, 1357-8, she and her husband, Philip Page, disposed of the property to William de Grendon, clerk. (*Ibid.* 86, 78.)

Laurence  
le Cotiller.

John atte  
Watre.

John de Gaunt was one of the Rulers of the Craft in 1340, and a supervisor of 1344, who was swept away by the Great Pestilence of 1349. John atte Watre held these offices also and suffered a like fate. He was one of twelve citizens who elected Thomas atte Crouche, sporiere, to keep the keys of Ludgate. In what capacity this body of twelve was selected does not appear; they were very probably residents near



Ludgate. The record is undated, but is apparently of December, 1343. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 92.) Richard de Toppesfeld also filled the above offices in the Craft of Cutlers and died by the Great Pestilence. He was the victim of a robbery in 1344, of which the City records give the following account. "On Friday after 17th June in that year, the trial took place of John de Chadesle, of Lincoln, taken at the suit of John de Haukeshale, servant of Richard de Toppesfeld, coteller, with the mainour of sixty-three knives, of the value of 6s. 8d., belonging to the said Richard and in the custody of the said John in Chepe, together with other goods and chattels of the said Richard to the value of 10 marks, which he feloniously thieved on the night of Saturday after the Feast of St. Barnabas (11th June), the year aforesaid, whereof the said John de Haukeshale appeals him. Pledges for the prosecution were Richard de Toppesfeld, cotiller, and William de Castr(e), goldsmith. The jury say on oath that the said John de Chadesle is guilty. Therefore let him be hanged; chattels none." (*Ibid.*, pp. 260-1.) John de Haukeshale, Toppesfeld's servant, became one of the supervisors of the Mistery in November, 1349. (*Ibid.*, p. 110.) He had a shop in Cheap at the east corner of Ironmonger Lane, and appears to have given up business about Midsummer, 1367, when he and his wife Alice disposed of the shop with "all goods and chattels to Sir Thomas Whyte, chaplain," by whom it was conveyed, a month later, to William Twyford, cutler. (*Husting Roll* 95, 120, 132.)

Richard de  
Toppesfeld.

Punishment  
for a theft of  
cutlery.

John de Trillowe, one of the officials of 1340 and 1344, and a victim of the Pestilence of 1349, seems to have belonged to the Walbrook settlement of cutlers. On Wednesday before 23rd April, 1345, he, with eight others, was sworn to see that the watercourse of the Walbrook be not impeded. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 120.) His name also occurs in November, 1348, as a surety for Alice de Lauvare. (*See* p. 72.) Richard Baldwyn, who

John de  
Trillowe.

Richard  
Kysser.

His will.

John Frank,  
his servant.

His bequest  
to Kysser.

was an official both in 1340 and 1344, and John atte Watre, junior, who served only in 1344, were both carried off by the terrible scourge of 1349. Of Richard Kysser, cutler, some interesting particulars are known. His name occurs in 1339, with that of his first wife Amy, as grantees of a rent of 10s. from a tenement in the parish of St. Lawrence Jewry. (*Husting Roll* 66, 44.) By his will, dated 4th April, 1349, and enrolled in May following, he left to Alice his wife all his tenements inherited from Hugh his father in the parish of St. Margaret Lothbury. After her decease the same were to be sold; 40s. of the proceeds to go to John de Thirlawe and Johanna his wife, and the residue to be devoted to pious and charitable uses. He appointed his wife guardian of John, son of William de Stebenheth. (*Ibid.* 36, 19; 76, 267; 137, 9.) John Frank, brother of the above-named William de Stebenheth, was a servant of Richard Kyssere, and therefore himself a cutler. His high regard for his master is seen in the provisions of his will dated 6th March, 1348-9, and enrolled in the same month. (*Ibid.* 76, 125.) After provision for his nephew John, son of his brother William, whom he places under the guardianship of Richard Kysser, he leaves bequests to Matilda Vyncent, late servant of Richard Kysser, and also to the said Richard, formerly his master, as an indemnification for losses sustained through him whilst serving the said Richard. These bequests were to be paid out of money left to him by Margaret Frank, and the residue of the money was to be paid to the said Richard to expend in pious uses for the souls of the testator, Simon Frank, Margaret, wife of the same, and others. In his will John Frank describes himself as son of John de Aslynfeld. Kysser survived him only a few weeks. A *Husting* deed enrolled in March, 1312 (*Ibid.* 40, 11), records the conveyance of a house in St. Margaret Lothbury parish by Richard, son of Richard le Kissere. One of these Richards must be the Richard Kysser mentioned above.



John de Hertinpoel, cutler, acquired a shop in Fleet Street in January, 1302-3. (*Husting Roll* 41, 59.) John de Hartelpol or Hertepol, probably his son, was one of the supervisors elected in 1349, and was assessed in Farringdon Without Ward for the subsidy of 6 Edward III (1332-3) at 16d. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 4.) On Friday after 17th June, 1353, he was appointed guardian of Matilda, daughter and heiress of Thomas le Hornere. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 9.) William de Spaldyng, who with Robert Godwyn (both cutlers) was among the sureties for Hartelpol, became a joint guardian of John Fabe, another City ward, in December, 1354. (*Ibid.*, p. 32.) William de Bergholte, cutler, and Joan his wife, sold to Ralph de Canterbury, skinner, on 16th April, 1339, a tenement with a great gate and with a chamber beyond the same gate in "ffynkeslane" (Finch Lane), in the parish of St. Benet Fink. (*Husting Roll* 67, 28.) Godfrey de Claving, knifsmith (*operarius cultellorum*), of "Bercheruereslane" (Birchin Lane), Cornhill, sold certain houses and shops there in November, 1341, to Stephen atte Holte, timbermonger, (*Ibid.* 68, 133); and Joan, his widow, released her claim to the property in February, 1349-50. (*Ibid.* 76, 60.) This Stephen may have been a son of Stephen atte Holte the knifsmith, of Birchin Lane. (*See* p. 70.) Another cutler, John Tovy, held property in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate in the street called "le baylli," in June, 1347. (*Husting Roll* 74, 83.) On 21st March, 1349-50, it was conveyed, after his death, to his widow Agnes and his daughter Isabel. (*Ibid.* 76, 212.) One-third part of this property was sold in February, 1352-3, by Agnes and John Brown, her second husband. (*Ibid.* 81, 11.)

John de  
Hartelpol.

John Tovy.

Nothing is known of John de Dunstable, cutler, the son of Nicholas de Dunstable, corder, except that on 15th October, 1348, he released his right to certain lands in the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn. (*Ibid.* 75, 153.) The name of William

atte Hurst, cutler, occurs in connection with property in the ward of Aldgate, which he and his wife Joan purchased on 14th April, 1356. (*Husting Roll* 84, 101.) These tenements were sold on 30th April, 1371, by his widow and Edmund Draycote of Wyngham, her second husband. (*Ibid.* 99, 51.)

Robert  
Godwyn.

Robert Godwyn, supervisor in 1349, married Alice the daughter of John Broun of Fleet Street, and under Broun's will became entitled to certain property the receipt of which he and his wife acknowledged on 15th February, 1358-9. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 185 ; *G*, p. 96.) Godwyn's business premises were probably in the Cutlery, for the Mayor and Aldermen granted a lease of "the Common Conduit of London" to him, jointly with Sir William de St. Albion, for a term of ten years from 6th March, 1367-8, at an annual rent of 20 marks. The lessees were to keep the Conduit in repair above ground, the lessors being responsible for any repairs below the surface. They were to enjoy all the profits and advantages arising from the Conduit and its fountain, supplying the Aldermen and Sheriffs with water without charge, and the commonalty at the rate formerly accustomed. (*Letter-Book G*, pp. 223-4.) John Porre was also among the supervisors of the Mistery elected in 1349, but nothing more is known concerning him.

A lessee of  
the Conduit.

Robert  
Bronde.

Robert Bronde, one of the "brewer" cutlers, who was contemporary with and probably related to members of the family of that name who were prominent in the Mistery of Sheathers in Edward III's reign (*see* p. 21), was party to a fourteenth century deed relating to "le ledeneporche," a brewhouse in Fleet Street. He is described as "Robert Bronde de Swaynes-say (Swansea), cutler, of London"; his wife was Avice, relict of John Gorland the younger. (*Hist. Mss. Com.*, App. to 9th Rep., p. 7.) A John Roudolf, cutler, was one of a jury in March, 1358-9, to enquire as to the property of Robert de Holewelle in Lombard Street. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 111.) Peter



de Eccles, cutler, bought a house opposite the church of St. Benedict, Paul's Wharf, in 1362, and sold it again in 1370. (*Husting Rolls* 90, 55 ; 98, 59.) On 29th November, 1369, the Mayor and Sheriffs were forbidden by a Royal writ to place him on any assize, jury, etc., if he should be proved to be seventy years of age. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 256.)

Richard Godchild, one of the Rulers of 1375, lived in the Cutlery by the Conduit. His wife Juliana owned as her dower from William Brunne, her former husband, one-third part of a shop with solars above opposite the Conduit, *ad cornerium*, in St. Mary Colechurch parish. This was sold by Richard Godchild and herself in February, 1350-1. (*Husting Roll* 79, 10.) She also owned as an inheritance from her mother, Joan, daughter of Christina le Maderman and late wife of Robert Motoun, a house with four shops in St. Mildred Poultry parish. (*Ibid.* 89, 133, 169.) Godchild himself was also much concerned with the acquisition and sale of City property. On 1st January, 1356-7, he released to Richard Peticru his right to certain tenements in the parish of St. Benedict Sherehog. (*Ibid.* 84, 133.) In December, 1365, he parted with his interest in a house in St. Dionis Backchurch parish. (*Ibid.* 93, 129.) In February, 1368-9, he was a joint purchaser with Richard Norton and others of a house in West Cheap, west of the church of St. Thomas of Acon. (*Ibid.* 97, 72.) He bought with three other persons another house in the Cutlery on 20th November, 1371 ; the house, lately rebuilt, adjoined the alehouse known as the Mayden on the Hope. (*Ibid.* 99, 145.) On 4th February, 1380-1, he bought, jointly with Richard Cookham, taverner, another shop in the Cutlery, but sold it in the following April to Simon Wynche-combe, armourer. (*Ibid.* 109, 83 ; 110, 14.) In Michaelmas, 1385, he joined the Vicar of St. Lawrence Jewry and William de Oxeburgh, clerk, in the purchase of a tenement in St. Mary Magdalene parish, Milk Street. (*Ibid.* 114, 98.) On 28th

Richard  
Godchild.

Property in  
the "Cut-  
lery."

Elected on  
the Common  
Council.

His will.

October, 1387, he released his right to certain property in Candlewick Street. (*Husting Roll* 116, 52, 53.) His house, the Castell on the Hope, which he left to his son John, was sold on 7th July, 1401, after John's death. (*Ibid.* 129, 119.) Godchild took part in his day in the concerns of the City at large. On 9th August, 1376, he was elected one of the representatives of the Cutlers' Mistery in the Common Council (*Letter-Book H*, p. 44), and on 31st July, 1384, again joined the City's Council as a representative of Cheap Ward. (*Ibid.*, p. 239.) He was also (like Thomas Ermelyn) accounted in 1388 one of "the chief men of the City." By his will, dated 11th January, 1389-90, and enrolled 6th November, 1390 (*Husting Roll* 119, 47), he desired to be buried beside his wife Juliana in the church of St. Thomas of Acon near the Conduit. To the Master and brethren of the house of St. Thomas he left 20s. To John, his son, his dwelling-house in Conynghopelane in the parish of St. Mildred Poultry, in tail, charged with the payment of 100s. to Emmota, wife of William Motyham, batour. Also to the same John an annual quitrent of one mark, issuing from a tenement called "le castell on the hope," in the parish of St. Mildred aforesaid. Various bequests follow to the clergy of St. Mildred's and others; by codicil he left his son John in the custody of Richard Lithiate, cutler. Of Richard Lithiate, or Lydiate, little else is known. In September, 1390, he was a joint purchaser of a tenement in "Conynghopelane," in St. Mildred Poultry parish. (*Ibid.* 119, 49.) In September, 1392, he jointly bought the reversion of some shops in the parish of St. Mary Magdalen, Milk Street. (*Ibid.* 121, 34.)

Adam  
Fermour.

Adam Fermour, who lived nearly to the close of the fourteenth century, was the earliest known benefactor of the Cutlers' Company. Fermour was one of the Masters of the Mistery in 1382. He was elected one of six representatives of Bishopsgate Ward summoned to attend a Common Council at Guildhall on



18th July, 1385 (*Letter-Book H*, p. 270), and for the same ward again on 31st August, 1388. (*Ibid.*, p. 333.) As a common councilman for Bishopsgate he must have resided among his constituents, but no trace can be found of his owning or renting property in that ward. He was twice married; his first wife, Matilda, was living in 1362. (*Husting Roll* 90, 120.) In 1379 (*Ibid.* 108, 30) we meet with the name of his second wife, Katherine, who survived him and was in 1397 the wife of Laurence Andrewe, mercer. (*Ibid.* 126, 22.) Fermour was a wealthy man, owning much property in the City of London. Between the years 1361 and 1417 the Husting Rolls contain many deeds relating to his estates in various parts of the City; the localities are as follows. The "Ryoll," in the parish of St. Michael Paternoster (89, 206; 90, 120; 108, 30, 38, 41); West Smithfield (96, 118); All Saints (All hallows), Bread Street (96, 142; 98, 143; 101, 22, 25; 103, 77); St. John the Evangelist and St. Augustine by St. Paul's Gate (97, 45); the three parishes just named (114, 72; 123, 20; 135, 15; 145, 7); Fleet Street (97, 106, 107; 126, 22); Watling Street (98, 122, 171; 102, 37); a brewhouse called "le Wellehous," in Bowyer Row within Ludgate (101, 42; 106, 111); St. Andrew, Holborn (106, 73; 111, 139, 146). By his will, dated 25th August, 1395, and enrolled 11th November (*Husting Roll* 124, 40), he provides for two hundred and forty masses to be celebrated by the several orders of the Preaching Friars, Friars Minors, Augustinian and Carmelite Friars, and for forty masses by the Friars of the Holy Cross. To Isabella his daughter, late wife of Gilbert Meldbourne, he leaves all his lands and tenements in the parishes of Allhallows, Bread Street, St. John, and St. Augustine for life; remainder to Katherine his wife and others in trust for sale to fulfil his will. Certain tenements also in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, to be sold for like purpose. His wife to have her dower and share of his goods

A Common Councilman.

His large estates.

His will.

Property in Watling Street.

and chattels. To John Smyth, cutler, his kinsman and executor, an annual rent issuing from the above lands and tenements devised to his daughter. The first-mentioned property, situated in Watling Street, came eventually into the Cutlers' Company's possession, but apparently in part by purchase. The disposition of the money realised by the sale of his estate was probably made in another will which has not been preserved, but the Cutlers' Company certainly benefited, for they provided masses for his soul. This appears from the will of his kinsman, John Amell the elder, cutler, who in his will dated February, 1473, desires the Company to include him and his wife in the masses to be said for the soul of Adam Fermour. (*See* p. 196.) John Smyth, the kinsman above-mentioned, appears, either as vendor or purchaser, in many land dealings with Adam Fermour. He purchased in July, 1368, jointly with John Tot, draper, certain lands and houses in the parishes of St. Sepulchre without Newgate and St. Bride, Fleet Street. (*Husting Roll* 96, 118, 129, 130.) He was also concerned in 1379, jointly with John Oxenford, tailor, in the ownership of property in the "Ryall." (*Ibid.* 108, 30, 38.)

Afterwards  
conveyed to  
Cutlers'  
Company.

Another of these supervisors was Simon Petigru, otherwise known as Simon atte Nax. He married Joan, widow of William Knyvet, cutler, as appears from a bequest of Knyvet to his daughter Joan, for the payment of which Simon and his wife obtained an acquittance in August, 1368. (*Letter-Book G*, p. 231.) He is usually described as Simon atte Nax, but bore also the family name of Petigru; in 1364 he became joint owner with Richard Peticru (ironmonger) of a house in St. Bride's parish (*Husting Roll* 92, 125), and sole owner of the property in 1371. (*Ibid.* 99, 75.) His home was in the Fleet Valley near Fleet Bridge, and here he bought an adjoining messuage in 1366-7. (*Ibid.* 95, 31.) Simon also owned other property in St. Bride's parish and in Cripplegate, including a brewery and three

Simon atte  
Nax.

Resident in  
the Fleet  
Valley.

A brewer.



shops in Fleet Street. (*Ibid.* 101, 106; 102, 202; 107, 123; 109, 127; 110, 71; 113, 26.) His name appears in the Patent Roll of 25 Edward III (*Cal.* p. 121) under date of 26th November, 1361, as a creditor (for 22*l.*) of William Warde, who had been outlawed in the Husting for non-appearance, but had then surrendered to the Fleet Prison. He was a man of high standing both as a cutler and a citizen. In 1375 and 1377 he served as one of the Rulers of the Mistery, and on 9th August, 1376, was elected one of the two representatives of the Mistery of Cutlers in the Common Council. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 44.) He was thrice returned to the City Council as a representative of Farringdon Ward, viz., in July, 1384, March, 1386, and August, 1388. (*Ibid.*, pp. 239, 281, 332.) In June of the latter year he took oath as one of "the chief men of the City" not to suffer the Acts lately passed by Parliament to be repealed. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll A*, 28, membr. 12.) On 1st March, 1386-7, he was appointed by the Common Council, with Roger Payn, collector of murage for Temple Bar and Ludgate. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 300.) By his will, dated 8th January, 1390-1, and enrolled in March following, he desires to be buried in St. Mary's chapel in the church of St. Brigid in Fletestrete, to which church, its clergy, and fraternities, he leaves various bequests. His will contains many other religious and charitable bequests, with provision for Joan his wife, Richard his son, Mariana his daughter, and others. All his tenements of St. Bride's parish were to be sold for the maintenance of two chantries in St. Bride's church. (*Husting Roll* 119, 93.)

A Ruler.

A Common Councilman.

His will.

William atte Nax, a bladesmith, was a contemporary of Simon and perhaps related to him. On 24th July, 1366, he and Joan his wife let on lease for nine years at an annual rent of 73*s.* 4*d.*, certain lands in the parish of St. Andrew on Cornhill (St. Andrew Undershaft). This church lies at the corner of St. Mary Axe, and the connection of the bladesmith

William atte Nax.

with the locality seems to throw light on his curious name. (*Husting Roll* 94, 114, 115.) William Wylde, cutler, carried on also a brewery, with the aid of his wife Beatrice, in "Whyte-crouche-stret," Cripplegate. After his death, this brewery was sold by his son Roger in May, 1365. (*Ibid.* 108, 45.) Roger Walter, cutler, and Rose his wife bought on 1st May, 1367, a tenement with houses in "Martelane" (Mark Lane), in the parish of St. Olave by the Tower. (*Ibid.* 95, 68.) The property was conveyed to Lambert Fermer, Esq., and his wife Isabel on 1st May, 1396, who re-conveyed it on 6th May to Walter and his wife, for life of survivor with remainder to Fermer, at the rent of a red rose at Midsummer. The tenure included various utensils which seem to belong to a brewer's business rather than to that of a cutler: "una fornace uno plumbo magno uno trough' plumbeo uno messhafat cum toto apparamento uno zelfat viginti kym'elynes duobus watergates duabus motis." (*Ibid.* 124, 123, 124.) Robert Mauncer, cutler, and his wife Joan were possessed of a tenement in the parish of St. Dunstan, Fleet Street, in February, 1369-70. (*Ibid.* 97, 186; 98, 29, 30.) Mauncer also acquired property, jointly with Adam Fermour, in the parish of St. Gregory by St. Paul's by deeds dated 1370 and 1373-4. (*Ibid.* 98, 122, 171; 102, 37.) Of John Cuykhal, cutler, it is only known that his will was proved in 1369.

Roger  
Walter.

A cutler and  
brewer.

John  
Colman.

The trade concerns of John Colman, "of London, coteller," were not limited to the City. The Patent Roll of 43 Edward III (part 2) records a pardon granted on 13th October, 1369, "to John Marchal of Cantebrigge of his outlawry in the Husting of London for non-appearance to answer John Colman touching a plea to render an account as receiver." (*Calendar*, v. 14, p. 309.) Two years later, another entry records, under date of 19th September, 1371, a "revocation of the protection with clause *volumus* dated 20th February last to John Colman who was



to have gone to Calais to stay there in the company of the King's clerk, William de Gunthorp, treasurer of the town." (*Ibid.* v. 15, p. 133.) William Temple, bladesmith, was in business in Candlewick Ward. On 8th March, 1370-1, he and Emma his wife let on lease for seven years a certain property in St. Clement's Lane, including a house which they afterwards occupied. Temple was living in March, 1394-5. (*Husting Rolls* 99, 28; 100, 46; 107, 76, 98, 99, 104; 123, 115.)

Between the years 1372 and 1394 inclusive twenty-nine different persons served as Rulers or Masters of the Mistery prior to its incorporation. (*See* pp. 242-3.) Many held the office several times, but of these twenty-nine cutlers more than one-half cannot be traced elsewhere. One of these early Rulers, Thomas Ermelyn, who held office in 1372 and 1383, was a leading cutler of his day. He was the senior of the two "Maisters" of the Fraternity, founded in 1370, whose names appear at the foot of the Ordinances. (*See* p. 251.) In June, 1388, he took (in Farringdon Without Ward) an oath prescribed by the King for "the chief men of the City." (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll A*, 28, membr. 12.) Through his wife Alice (widow of John Sapcote, cutler) he became possessed, in 1403, of a house and land in St. Lawrence Lane, Old Jewry. (*Husting Rolls* 132, 60, 66; 135, 79.) He also held property in Bowyer Row within Ludgate (*Ibid.* 123, 110; 139, 47, 48), and in the parish of St. Dionis Backchurch. (*Ibid.* 124, 121; 131, 30.) As one of the executors of the will of Adam Fermour, he sold to feoffees on behalf of the Company the property in Watling Street, by deed dated 12th October, 1407. (*Ibid.* 135, 15.) He was living in 1412, and on the 20th of May in that year witnessed a deed relating to property in St. Sepulchre's parish. (*Ibid.* 139, 71.)

Thomas  
Ermelyn.

John Twyford, who was a Ruler in 1372 and 1382, had a shop in Cheap in the parish of St. Mary Magdalene, Milk Street,

John  
Twyford.

which he bought of William Gerveys in January, 1375-6. (*Husting Roll* 103, 319.) On 1st May, 1408, Twyford sold this house to Martin Godard, Richard Wellom, and four other cutlers, all influential men of the Company (*Ibid.* 135, 105), by whom it was re-conveyed to the Company in 1417. (*Ibid.* 145, 7.) He also bought land in the parish of St. Katherine within Aldgate in January, 1395-6 (*Ibid.* 124, 82; 125, 82, 83), and held an interest in a house in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less, Broad Street, in 1408. (*Ibid.* 138, 54.) He was assessed at 13s. 4d. for the subsidy of 2nd January, 13 Henry IV (1411-2); this proves him to have been worth in landed property 40l. and over, the assessment being 6s. 8d. for every 20l. of lands, tenements, etc. (*Subsidy Roll* 144, 20.) On 25th February, 1398-9, he was discharged from serving on juries, etc., owing to increasing age. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 445.) He lived, however, another fifteen years; his will, drawn up on 7th July, 1414, was enrolled in the Registry of the Archdeacon of London in May, 1415. (*Reg.* 1, fol. 330.) He gave directions for his burial in the church of St. Thomas of Acon "sub petra mea marmoria ibidem pro me ordinata." He left 10s. for works of charity and masses for his soul, and the residue of his goods he bequeathed to his wife Katherine, with all his vessels of silver, viz., pieces with covers of silver, and mazers garnished with silver; with remainder to his daughter Ellen the wife of William Graunger, cutler.

His will.

Richard  
Twyford.

Richard Twyford, like his father, took a prominent part in the affairs of the Cutlers' Mistery, of which he was a Ruler in 1389, 1393, and 1394. His name appears in the Calendar of Patent Rolls (Richard II, 1396-9, p. 396), under date of 21st April, 1399, when he summoned one Nicholas Slake, clerk, for a debt of 10l. He died before his father, and within a month after executing his will on 31st October, 1406. The provisions of his will (*Archd. of London's Registry, Reg.* 1, fol. 163d)



evidence his regard for the Cutlers' Company. His three children were placed during their minority under the custody of his father, but their portion (one-third) of his estate, should none of them survive, was left to the Wardens of the Mistery of Cutlers, for the relief of their poorer brethren, and with a request for continual remembrance of his soul in their prayers and devotions. The children, or some of them, must have succeeded to their inheritance, as the estate did not come into the possession of the Cutlers' Company. He desired to be buried beside his wives Joan and Alice in the church of St. Thomas of Acon in West Cheap, but he lived in his father's parish of St. Mary Magdalene, Milk Street, leaving to the church of that parish half a mark for tithes, etc., forgotten. William Twyford, cutler, was probably a member of the same family. His name occurs in 1361, in two Husting deeds (89, 133, 169), in connection with a quitrent of 13s. 4d. charged upon a tenement and four shops in St. Mildred Poultry. He also held a shop in 1367 at the south-east corner of Ironmonger Lane, previously occupied by John Haukeshale. (*Husting Roll* 95, 120, 132.) He died before 19th November, 1387, on which day his widow Joan, then the wife of Edmund Wodhull, cutler, was a party to the sale of a house in St. Mildred Poultry parish. (*Ibid.* 116, 62.)

Reversion-  
ary bequest  
to the  
Company.

William  
Twyford.

Nicholas Horewode, one of the four Rulers or Supervisors of the Mistery in 1372, leased his great garden in East Smithfield, with dovecote built within, and one cottage adjoining, at an annual rent of 13s. 4d. for a term of twenty years from Christmas, 1374. (*Ibid.* 102, 89.) On 31st October, 1378, he released to John Scorfyn, furbour, and his wife Agnes all his right to a tenement which they had acquired from Margaret Horewode, late wife of John Horewode, sen., situated in the parish of St. Thomas Apostle in "Cordwanestret." (*Ibid.* 107, 75.) Robert Malteby, bladesmith, appears to have been

Nicholas  
Horewode.

Robert  
Malteby.

Partner with  
Roger  
Mark.

partner with another bladesmith, Roger Mark. (*See* p. 102.) On 21st May, 1377, he bought jointly with Mark some tenements in Seacoal Lane in St. Sepulchre's parish, and on 8th October, 1380, they also bought other land in Cock Lane in the same parish. (*Husting Rolls* 105, 53; 109 33.) All the premises were apparently sold by Malteby and Mark on 10th June, 1381. (*Ibid.* 110, 79.) On 25th February, 1383-4, Malteby, with Roger Mark and two others, became a guardian of the orphan daughter of William Brikles. (*Letter-Book* H, p. 180.) He paid to the Chamberlain on 15th April, 1389, on behalf of Richard Savage, cordwainer, the sum of 4*l.* due to Thomas and John Morice. (*Ibid.*, p. 341.) On 1st December, 1395, he and others purchased a tenement called "le Voute," in St. Sepulchre's parish, Roger Mark being one of the witnesses of the deed. (*Husting Roll* 124, 63.) The last notice of Robert Malteby (here described as cutler) is of 21st October, 1406, when he was discharged from serving on juries owing to increasing old age. (*Letter-Book* I, p. 48.) William atte Crouch, a cutler, son of Thomas atte Crouch, spurrier, inherited, subject to his father's life interest, a tenement in the parish of St. Martin Ludgate, of which he sold the reversion on 14th July, 1378. (*Husting Roll* 107, 2; 79, 104.) William Deigher, another cutler, was a mainpernor or surety, in July, 1378, to set free Walter Selk, goldsmith, from Newgate gaol. (*Calendar of Close Rolls*, 2 Richard II, p. 201.) John Benerache was less known as a cutler than as a "maintainer," who got himself into trouble by interfering in the business of others. On 20th November, 1378, at an inquisition taken before the Mayor and Sheriffs, the jurors reported that Benerache and twelve other persons named were "maintainers of complaints," and were "accustomed to frequent the Courts of the Mayors and Sheriffs for the time being, without cause, to the obstruction of the law." (*Letter-Book* H, pp. 112, 114.) Nothing is known of Thomas

John Bene-  
rache, a  
'maintainer.'



Spencer, cutler, beyond the provisions of his will enrolled at Guildhall in May, 1379. He left various tenements in the parishes of St. Peter, Broad Street, and St. Mary Aldermary to his wife Agnes in trust for his son Thomas. (*Husting Roll* 107, 121.)

Richard Pull served as a Ruler of the Mistery in 1377, 1380, 1384, 1389, and 1394. He was one of the two delegates of the Craft summoned in 1402 to attend an inquiry in the Tower of London as to the management of the City prisons. (*Rolls of Parliament*, v. 3, p. 519b.) On 14th July, 1378, he and his wife Margery bought of William atte Crouch, cutler, the reversion of a house lying between Ludgate and St. Paul's. (*Husting Roll* 107, 2.) He was a joint purchaser on 5th June, 1384, of certain premises in the parish of St. Martin Ludgate (*Ibid.* 112, 129), and on 25th June, 1403, of a house in St. Lawrence Lane, Old Jewry. (*Ibid.* 131, 74, 82.) As an executor of Adam Fermour, he took part in 1408 in the transfer to the Company of the property in Watling Street. By his will, dated 14th October, 1411, and proved on 22nd January following, he left to his wife Juliana tenements in Fleet Street and "Bowyerrowe," near the lane called "Eldenlane," or Old Dean Lane (now Warwick Lane, where the Company's present Hall lies). He also owned property in Rochester and elsewhere in Kent, left 10*l.* for the repair of Rochester Bridge, and to the parish of Wrotham a priest's vestment and 40*s.* for the poor. (*Ibid.* 139, 27.) Of Thomas Kirton, or Kyrketon, who was one of the two Masters of the Fraternity in 1370 and a Ruler of the Mistery in 1385, little else is known. As an executor of the will of William Wolrich, founder, he sold certain property in June, 1401. (*Ibid.* 130, 81.) John Salle, who was elected a Ruler in 1379, lived in the Cutlery by the Conduit. On 31st July he was elected a representative of Cheap Ward in a congregation of mayor, aldermen and citizens. (*Letter-Book*

Richard  
Pull.

Executor of  
Adam  
Fermour.

John Salle.

A resident in  
the Cutlery.

H, p. 239.) Salle and his wife Margaret held by gift and feoffment of Thomas de Farneburgh (confirmed on 29th May, 1378, by a deed of release from his brother John de Farneburgh) a tenement near the Conduit adjoining a tenement they then held called "la Horsheved on the hope." (*Ancient Deeds* A, 7593, A, 11945; cf. also A, 11944, A, 11942, and A, 11946.) On 1st September, 1384, there was also demised to them by the Prior and Convent of Holy Trinity, for their lives, a shop at the corner of "Ismongerslane," at a yearly rent of 60s. (*Ancient Deeds* A, 1991.) The deed is endorsed with a memorandum stating that John Salle died at Westminster about the Feast of St. John the Baptist, 8 Henry IV (1406-7).

Robert  
Austyn.

Robert Austyn was elected a Ruler of the Mistery in 1380, 1383, 1385, 1389, 1390, and 1393. He was also, in 1402, a delegate (with Richard Pull above-mentioned) summoned to the inquiry into the management of the City prisons. He held property in St. Sepulchre's parish acquired on 17th April, 1391 (*Husting Roll* 119, 102), also five shops in the parish of St. Dionis Backchurch, bought jointly with Thomas Ermelyn in May, 1395 (*Ibid.* 124, 121; 131, 30), and land, etc., in Allhallows Staining parish which he purchased with John Wight, cutler, on 5th June, 1397. (*Ibid.* 126, 20.) John Hyde, one of the Rulers in 1392, and William Lathum, who held that office in 1380 and 1392, were both feoffees who received the Watling Street estate on behalf of the Company in 1408. Lathum was part owner, from 13th December, 1400, to 17th June, 1404, of a house in Fleet Street. (*Ibid.* 129, 48; 133, 66.) On 25th June, 1405, he joined one William Ball in the purchase of another house in Fleet Street (*Ibid.* 133, 99), and on 14th April, 1406, jointly acquired, with his brother (John Lathum, otherwise called Boteller, draper), and two others, a brewhouse with houses in St. Sepulchre's parish. (*Ibid.* 133\*, 61.) He witnessed a deed in the same parish on 20th May, 1412 (*Ibid.* 139, 71), and

William  
Lathum.



another dealing with tenements in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, in the following February. (*Ibid.* 141, 23.)

Of two cutlers named Shirbourne, probably related, comparatively little is known. William Shirbourne held some interest in two City properties through his wife Joan, who was the daughter and heiress of Walter de Bedyngton. In April, 1381, Shirbourne and his wife released their right to various premises in the parish of St. Michael, Wood Street, and on 24th October following gave a similar release in respect of property in the parish of St. John Walbrook. (*Ibid.* 110, 9, 52.)

William  
Shirbourne.

Richard Shirbourne, who seems to have been unmarried, joined three other citizens (not cutlers) in the purchase of property in various parishes; on 10th May, 1392, in All Saints, Bread Street, and St. Peter, Westcheap, on 26th May and 25th September, 1394, in St. Mary Abchurch, and on 4th March, 1394-5 in St. Pancras. (*Ibid.* 120, 122; 122, 119; 123, 22, 96.)

Richard  
Shirbourne.

Edmund Wodehull, cutler, was settled in or near the "Cutlery," where on 18th May, 1381, he bought an estate formerly belonging to John de Mymmes, ironmonger, in St. Mildred, Poultry, parish. On 23rd April, 1386, he took from John Spense, ironmonger, a 50 years' lease of a vacant plot of land in the same parish. On 5th March, 1389-90, his wife Joan having lately died, he was granted by William Pynchebek, rector of St. Mildred, Poultry, a life interest in a tenement in "Conynghoplane," in that parish. (*Ibid.* 109, 119; 114, 128; 118, 85.) Adjoining Wodehull's property in "Conynghoplane" was a tenement belonging to the Chapel of St. Mary of Conynghoplane held in 1386 by Walter Kynton, cutler, of whom nothing more is known. (*Ibid.* 114, 128; 116, 62.)

Edmund  
Wodehull.

A very interesting deed preserves the memory of John Stanelee, citizen and cutler of London. This is his receipt, dated 2nd May, 1385, for the sum, a large one in those days, of 22s. paid to him by Walter Leycestre, the King's sergeant-

John  
Stanelee.

Roger Mark,  
bladesmith.

Also  
a brewer.

His will.

at - arms, and John Merston, for a certain knife which must have been of exceptional workmanship and value. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deed No. 30223.) Roger Mark was a wealthy bladesmith, and undoubtedly a man of influence, although his name does not appear among the Rulers of the Craft. He was one of the sureties for the executors of John Southam, woolmonger, in February, 1383-4. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 180.) An influential parishioner of St. Sepulchre without Newgate, he started business, probably in Seacoal Lane, with Robert Malteby, bladesmith, as his partner (p. 98). Among his many property investments, and like some other wealthy cutlers, he turned his attention to brewing. On 14th February, 1394-5, he joined three other citizens in purchasing a brewery known as "le key on le hope," in St. Sepulchre's parish. (*Husting Roll* 123, 122.) Between the years 1385 and 1394 the *Husting Rolls* give many particulars of his purchases of property. (114, 88, 89, 119; 117, 133; 120, 10; 121, 8; 135, 78.) The Westminster Abbey records contain a deed (no. 13408) dated 21st December, 7 Henry IV, 1405, by which Roger Mark and Thomas Eydon, chaplain, convey to John ffrench and two others a tenement and land situated at Holborn Bars in the parish of St. Andrew Holborn. [A much earlier Roger Mark, whose occupation is not described, appears in the same archives (deed no. 23634) as the recipient, with Richard de Wirhale, of 104l. 15s. 6d., on 1st November, 30 Edward I, 1302, in payment of a debt due to them by the Abbot of Westminster.] By his will, dated 1st April, 1407, and enrolled in the following October, he left a life interest in all his property to his wife Cristina. After her death his lands and shops in "Cokkeslane" (Cock Lane) and Hosier Lane were to remain to the vicar and churchwardens of St. Sepulchre for the maintenance of a chantry, and a tenement in "Coubrygstrete" (Cowbridge Street, Cowbridge crossed the Fleet) was to be sold for other pious uses.



(*Husting Roll* 135, 20.) John Wight was one of the cutlers settled in Cornhill; in February, 1389-90, and February, 1395-6, he acquired property there in the parish of St. Michael. (*Ibid.* 118, 99, 101, 102; 124, 105.) Wight seems to have left his trade as a London cutler and settled in the country, for in transactions concerning property in St. Dionis Backchurch and Allhallows Staining, in association with Robert Austyn and Thomas Ermelyn, cutlers, he is variously described as "citizen and cutler" and "merchant of Brodehenton Wilts." (*Ibid.* 124, 121; 126, 20; 131, 30.)

John Wight.

Richard Waltham, one of the last of the early Rulers, who held office in 1390, lived in the neighbourhood of the Fleet. On 14th June, 1397, he bought, jointly with John Parker, cutler, and another, some lands in Fleet Street formerly belonging to Adam Fermour. (*Ibid.* 126, 22.) By his will, dated 2nd November, 1397, and enrolled on 14th February following, he desired to be buried in the church of St. Martin, Ludgate, and founded a chantry there. After legacies to Philip, George, and John, his sons, and to his daughter Joan, he left his tenement in St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, for the use of his wife Alice during her life. (*Ibid.* 126, 115.) Little is known of the two cutlers, Henry and John Blakewyn, who were probably brothers. Marion Blakewyn, Henry's widow, bought an estate in Seacoal Lane in St. Sepulchre's parish in March, 1390-1, also a tenement in Fleet Street in July, 1394. (*Ibid.* 119, 125, 126; 123, 29.) All this property passed from Marion (Henry's widow) to Margaret, the widow of John Blakewyn, and her second husband, William Merssh. It was sold by Merssh and his wife on 20th May, 1412, to John Empyngham, spurrier, and Richard Hatfield, cutler, the deed being witnessed by three prominent members of the Cutlers' Mistery. (*Ibid.* 139, 71.) Walter Hoper, a bladesmith, lived with his wife Agnes in the parish of St. Anne, Aldersgate, and released his

Richard Waltham.

Henry and John Blakewyn.

Walter Hoper.

right to a house there on 18th September, 1392. (*Husting Roll* 121, 9.) By his will, dated 1st June, 1413, he desired to be buried in the chapel of St. Mary in St. Anne's church, and made small gifts to the high altar for tithes and for the fabric of the church. The executors were ordered to procure two wax candles, each of 3 lbs., to be burnt, after his funeral, before the image of St. Anne in the chancel and that of St. Mary in the chapel. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry, Reg. 1, fol. 328d.*)

William  
Castre.

William Castre, cutler, lived in the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury, and therefore in the immediate neighbourhood of the Cutlery at the Conduit. He married Alice, daughter of Nicholas Marchaunt, mercer, from whom, through his wife, he obtained two tenements in that parish. Castre and his wife were in possession of this property on 23rd October, 1393 (*Ancient Deeds, A, 7817*), but on 1st December, 1404, he conveyed the property to John Marchaunt, son of Nicholas Marchaunt, and to his own son, John Castre. (*Ibid., A, 2360.*) John Castre died without heir, and John Marchaunt, "citizen of London, for many years Common Clerk of the said City," by his will dated 18th July, and proved 31st July, 1421, left the reversion of the houses to the Prior and Convent of the Holy Trinity within Aldgate, London, William Castre being apparently then still living. (*Ibid., A, 12349.*)

Andrew  
Thurston.

Andrew Thurston, cutler, is only known by his will, which was proved in the Archdeacon of London's Registry in September, 1395. (*Register 1, fol. 28.*) He desired to be buried in the churchyard of St. Sepulchre without Newgate, and left the residue of his goods to Thomas Horsey and William Luel, both cutlers of London, to be disposed of for the benefit of his soul as should seem best to them. Nothing more is known of these two cutlers. Henry Whiteby, a cutler of the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, acquired a tenement there with shops and solars on 17th April, 1396; the property was obtained from Richard



Lye, the brother of his wife Isabel. (*Husting Roll* 124, 122.) Of John Caumbrigge, cutler, all that is known is his ownership from 1397 to 1400 of a shop in the parish of St. Leonard, Eastcheap. (*Ibid.* 126, 28 ; 129, 20.)

To these notes on the London cutlers of the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries some notice of one of their number, John Gerold, who died in the year 1400, forms a fitting conclusion. His will, drawn up about the middle of September in that year and proved early in the following month in the Registry of the Archdeacon of London (*Register* 1, 91), shows him to have been a well-to-do citizen, very careful in the performance of religious observances and not forgetful of his friends. He was probably unmarried, his mother being the only relative for the welfare of whose soul he provided. Besides some household stuff such as blankets, coverlets, and cushions, various articles of apparel are enumerated and assigned to different recipients. Two fur gowns, a gown of red cloth, gowns of blue and green, red and russet slippers, a skin called buckskin, a knife with a hilt, and a dagger, were left to various legatees. One of these was John Parys, another cutler (*see* p. 184), whilst John and Richard Twyford, of the same craft, were witnesses.

## CHAPTER III.

### PUBLIC LIFE OF THE COMPANY DURING THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

Misteries  
take part in a  
Commission  
at the Tower.



AT the opening of the fifteenth century the Cutlers were represented at an important inquiry held in the Tower of London. In 1402 certain allegations were brought by John Cavendish, citizen of London, "of certain defaults by oppression and extortion against the Sheriffs and other officials concerning the management of the City prisons." By order of Parliament these charges were committed for hearing to an assembly of citizens chosen from the various Misteries who were summoned to meet in the Tower of London, with the Mayor and Aldermen, in the presence of the Earl of Worcester, Lord Lovell, Lord Say and others. The case affected two important officials, the Sheriffs of the City, and representatives of the Misteries seem to have been chosen as an impartial body. The list of Misteries represented is of especial interest at this early date and includes some which afterwards ceased to have separate existence. The assembly included forty-eight representatives of the Misteries; the Fishmongers sent three of their number and the other Crafts either two or one, the Cutlers being represented by Robert Austyn and Richard Pull. Six additional commoners were selected, apparently as witnesses, among them being James Cokkes, a Cutler. What happened to John Cavendish and his charges against the Sheriffs does not appear, both the national and City records being silent on the subject. The summoning document, printed at length, will be found on pp. 271-3.

Charges  
against the  
Sheriffs.

The Cutlers'  
representa-  
tives.

Sumptuary  
regulations.

The cutler's art was much concerned with the fashions of the times, and was therefore closely affected by sumptuary



regulations. In 1402 Parliament ordered that no man should wear baselards, daggers, or horns, mounted with silver, or any other "harness" of silver, unless he possessed lands, houses, or rents of the value of twenty pounds yearly, or goods and chattels of the value of two hundred pounds. (*Rolls of Parl.*, 3, p. 506b.) The same prohibition was extended to chaplains in 1406. (*Ibid.*, p. 593a.) To meet the demand for cheap finery, the Cutlers, in common with other artificers, had coated their copper or latten wares (sword-pommels) with gold or silver; this was strictly forbidden by Parliament in 1403-4. (*Ibid.*, p. 542a.) These malpractices of some members of the craft brought the whole Mistery into conflict with that of the Goldsmiths.

Coating base metal forbidden.

The controversy, which was of long standing, can be traced back to the first decade of the fourteenth century. An undated petition in Norman French (*see* pp. 232-3) is preserved in the Public Record Office, which from the evidence of the handwriting must be assigned to the close of the reign of Edward I, or the early regnal years of his successor. In this the Cutlers pray that they may be free to follow their trade without interference from any other Mistery, and that they may be empowered to seize any false cutlery brought into the City by "foreigners," as well as false ware made by members of their own Mistery. The rest of the petition is much decayed and imperfect, but appears to contain a request for similar powers in other cities and towns of England. The King's decision, endorsed upon the petition, was in favour of the petitioners' requests, subject to the Mayor's authority, and saving the rights of the Goldsmiths, within the City of London; the King reserved to himself the power to deal with the matter in other parts of the country.

Controversy with the Goldsmiths.

Cutlers' petition.

Decision thereon.

Another document (*Anc. Petitions*, file 113, no. 5621) which contains the answer of Edward III (13th March, 1326-7)

Goldsmiths' petition.

Charges  
against Cut-  
lers.

to the petition presented by the Goldsmiths of London in his first Parliament contains a direct mention of the alleged mal-practices of the Cutlers :—" Et les Cotelers en la Cotelrie couerent lesteym dargent si tenuement que largent ne purra iammes estre seuary del esteym & ency vendent lesteym couert dargent pour argent fyn a graunt damage & deceit de nous & de nostre poeple." (And the Cutlers in the Cutlery cover tin with silver so subtilly that the silver can never be separated from the tin, and thus they sell tin covered with silver for pure silver to the great loss and deceit of us and our people.) This corresponds and is contemporary with a statement to the same effect in the preamble to the charter granted by the same King to the Goldsmiths.

Further  
petitions to  
Parliament.

In 1403-4 the dispute was brought before the King and Parliament by further petitions from both the Crafts which are set out at length on pp. 273-281. The Goldsmiths in their petition refer to the preamble of their charter of 1327, and allege that " now the said cutlers are wont to work in gold and silver in a different manner to what they did in the times aforesaid, through which, by the defaults and subtilties in the work of the said cutlers, great scandal and drawbacks will come to the said Mistery of Goldsmiths if remedy be not applied." They pray, therefore, that the cutlers may not " execute in any other manner workmanship of gold and silver than they were wont at the time of the grant by " King Edward III. They also ask for power to search and survey all kinds of gold and silver work within the City and elsewhere in the Kingdom, with power to punish offenders.

Goldsmiths'  
petition.

Cutlers'  
petition.

The Cutlers in their petition (pp. 280-1) reply by showing that they have been accustomed to work in gold and silver, for times " of which the memory runneth not," on knives, daggers, and baselards and every other work pertaining to their craft. They had also been governed (under the Mayor) by four Wardens



elected yearly and sworn before the Mayor to correct all defaults within the Craft. These their ancient customs had been affirmed, approved, and enrolled at Guildhall before the Mayor and Aldermen, in the times both of King Edward III, and of the late King Richard II. They had also borne scot and lot and their full share of other charges within the City. The Goldsmiths were now seeking a confirmation of their ancient privileges, and desired the addition of a new privilege from Parliament enabling them to supervise all gold and silver work within the City and Suburbs and at country fairs and to redress defaults therein found, whereas the redress and punishment of defaults found within the Mistery of Cutlers belonged to the Mayor and Aldermen on presentation thereof by the Wardens of the said Mistery. The Cutlers therefore pray both King and Parliament to disannul the confirmation and grant made to the Goldsmiths, that they and succeeding cutlers in times to come may use and occupy their craft as freely and completely as they have done in times past. Another petition, to the same effect but much more concise, was also presented by the Cutlers (pp. 273-4).

Their  
ancient  
privileges.

New powers  
sought by  
Goldsmiths.

Opposed by  
Cutlers.

After due consideration of the matter by Parliament, the King sent copies of the petitions to the Mayor, for his report to the King and Parliament after having called the Companies before him. In his report the Mayor stated that he called before him the responsible men of both Misteries together with many other old and substantial men from each Ward of the City. There were laid before him by the two Misteries, charters, rolls, and evidences touching and concerning the rule, custom, assay, and government of the said Misteries. It appeared to the Mayor that the Cutlers had from ancient times been accustomed to work in gold and silver within the City as the times and their ability then demanded, and that they still work in gold and silver as the present time and their skill, according to the change of years, demand and require. And that the Wardens

Reference to  
the Mayor.

Mayor's  
report.

Cutlers may  
work in gold  
and silver.

of the Mistery of Goldsmiths for the time being have been accustomed from ancient times to have the assay of gold and silver work made by the Cutlers within the City. The Mayor's report appears to have been adopted by the King and Parliament, and the Goldsmiths obtained the confirmation of their charter with certain other privileges (pp. 277-9). The strife between the Goldsmiths and Cutlers being thus appeased, and a good working arrangement between the two Crafts having been effected, a permanent peace appears to have resulted lasting to the days of simpler tastes, when the decoration of cutlers' ware with gold and silver gradually disappeared.

Goldsmiths' right of assay.

Peace restored.

Rivalry of the Bladesmiths.

First Ordinance of 1408.

Forged marks forbidden.

Increase of price of blades forbidden.

Second Ordinance, 1408.

From the beginning of the fifteenth century the Bladesmiths, who were separately organised as a Mistery and possessed a Livery, rapidly increased in influence as a Craft, and were not only independent, but even rivals, of the Cutlers during the first half of the century. The rivalry reached its height in 1408, when no less than three sets of Ordinances affecting the two Misteries were passed by the Court of Aldermen. The first Ordinance arose out of a joint petition from the Cutlers and Bladesmiths addressed to the Mayor and Aldermen on the 12th of October in that year. Complaint was made that "foreign" cutlers from various parts of England brought for sale to London knives and blades bearing forged marks of London bladesmiths, and that the sale of such "faulty and defective" goods tended to the discredit of the two Misteries and to the public loss. They therefore prayed that London cutlers should be forbidden to purchase knives and blades bearing such forged marks. It was also asked that bladesmiths should not be permitted to increase the price of blades except by the joint consent of the Masters of the Cutlers and Bladesmiths. The petition, which was approved by the Court and ordered to be observed, will be found on pp. 283-285. The second ordinance is dated on the following day (13th October), and



evidently represents a compromise arrived at between the two Crafts on the vexed question of search. The power of search for faulty ware lay at the root of the control over their trades by the various Misteries, not the least of the benefits accruing to the Mystery being the handsome profits that arose from the seizure of condemned goods. The agreement now reached, and duly approved by the Court of Aldermen, was that two Masters of the Cutlers and two of the Bladesmiths should make search of all blades offered for sale by members of the Crafts of Cutlers and Bladesmiths, and also of all blades of English make exposed for sale elsewhere within the City. This Ordinance is exactly similar to that of the same year between the Cutlers and the Sheathers (pp. 282-283). The third Ordinance, dated 26th October within a fortnight of the previous order, was obtained by the Bladesmiths themselves and gave important powers to their Mystery. The first article, which was reaffirmed by the Court of Aldermen and ordered to be carried into effect in March, 1441-2 (*Journal* 3, f. 114), prohibited the secret sale of wares. No one, freeman or foreigner, was to sell his goods in private places nor carry them through the streets for sale, under pain of forfeiture and heavy fine. For those who wished to sell their work away from their own houses or shops three places were assigned where they might "stand openly," namely Gracechurch, the Pavement near St. Nicholas Shambles, and near the Tun in Cornhill. The next provision obliges all makers of lance-heads, swords, daggers, or knives, to make the points and edges of such weapons hard throughout, and also the edges and heads of axes so as to stand the assay. Every bladesmith was to put his mark upon his work such as heads of lances, knives, axes, *and other large work*; the implied reservation as to *small* work is important, showing that the knife-smiths who made the smaller ware were under the supervision of the Cutlers. The remaining articles provide that no

Search to be made jointly.

Third Ordinance, Bladesmiths, 1408.

Secret sales and hawking forbidden.

Edges of blades to be hard.

Blades to be marked.

False work  
to go to  
Guildhall.

bladesmith shall use the mark of another, that the Masters of the Mistery shall send to Guildhall for judgment all false work which they find, that none shall teach his journeymen knowledge of the trade, that none shall be made free of the Mistery without being tested and approved by the Wardens as to his skill in the trade, and that none shall entice away the apprentice of another. These Ordinances are printed at length on pp. 285-287.

Rulers of the  
Bladesmiths.

Although there is little doubt that the Rulers of the Bladesmiths were duly sworn and admitted every year at Guildhall, the City books furnish us with a very incomplete list of these officials. This list, which cannot be supplemented from any other source, appears on p. 247, and records twelve admissions, viz., in the years 1376, 1416, 1417, 1424, 1425, 1428, 1439, 1441, 1488, 1489, and 1490-1. Notices of some of the more notable bladesmiths of this and later times are given in a subsequent chapter. A dispute about a bladesmith's mark came before the Court of Aldermen in August, 1452. On the death of Robert Hynkeley, citizen and bladesmith, who owned the mark of the double crescent, the possession of this mark was secured by John Morth, another bladesmith. Agnes, Hynkeley's widow, who had become the wife of John Leylond, citizen and skinner, joined her husband in an appeal to the Court of Aldermen for the restitution of the mark. Their appeal was successful in spite of a counter-petition from the Bladesmiths' Mistery, and Morth was forbidden to use the mark under severe penalty. (See p. 329.) The number of London bladesmiths belonging to the Cutlers' Mistery must have been considerable. This is clear from the right of search possessed jointly by the Misteries of Cutlers and Bladesmiths. It is also shown by the following extracts from the Cutlers' early accounts:—"1443-4. Money given of the assent of the Craft to John Chambre Bladsmyth brother of the same Craft to his relief after that he was

Dispute as to  
a mark.

Many  
bladesmiths  
in Cutlers'  
Mistery.



mayhemed (maimed), xxs." "1461-2. Paid to a Sergeaunt for somonyng of the bladesmythes, viij*d*." "1471-2. Paid for wrytyng of Evidence for Robert Wright Bladesmyth, ijs." The sum of 8*l*. "of money of the box of the seid Craft" was also lent to Robert Wright.

In 1463 further powers were obtained by the Bladesmiths from the Court of Aldermen, by an Ordinance dated 30th July, in the third year of the reign of Edward IV. The "foreyns" continued to give trouble by selling "theire almanere chaffare" at inns and other private and "unlefull" places, and were now ordered to take their goods to Leadenhall, "there to be solde opynly on merkate dayes there accustomed and in non other places." These strangers, who came not only from "foreyn" or country towns, but also from places near the suburbs of the City, and are described in the next article of the Ordinances as "dwellyng in ferre contrees (counties) of this Reaume," were still guilty of counterfeiting the marks of City bladesmiths and selling their wares so stamped as London blades. Such blades when found and condemned by the Wardens of the Bladesmiths in their Search were to be declared "vtterly farfette." The London blades also suffered in public estimation, it was alleged, by the work of "vnkonnyng grinders," and it was therefore ordered that no "foreyn" grinder should work in the City until he had obtained his freedom and been "proved" in his workmanship, under a penalty of 12*d*. for every defect found. A still heavier penalty of 20*d*. awaited the "vnkonnyng" grinder *within* the Craft, who was also forbidden to seek for grinding or other custom outside his house or shop, or to employ a "foreyn" unless there were no skilled workman enfranchised in the Craft who could be employed. By another provision the men of the Mistery were forbidden to send cutlery ware out of their shops for sale until it had been searched and approved by the Wardens. The last clause of the Ordinances deals with

Orders  
against  
"foreyns."

Regulations  
for grinders.

Search of  
ware carried  
out of City.

Lights in St.  
Paul's  
maintained.

the religious duties of the Bladesmiths' Mistery. It obliges every member of the Craft of Bladesmiths "to paye his parte duly sette vpon him to the sustinence" of certain lights burning before the "ymages of oure lady aswell in the Cathedrall Chirche of Seynt Poule as in the Chirche of the ffreres menours (Friars Minors)." Any of the Commonalty who were "obstynat and woll not bere there parte" were to pay a fine of 4*d.* or to lose at every time a pound of wax. The entire document (in English) is printed from the City Records on pp. 334-336.

Bladesmiths'  
Ordinance,  
1501.

Wardens to  
control and  
assign marks.

Apprentices.

To be  
comely.

Thirty-eight years later, on the same day and month, the Bladesmiths again approached the Court of Aldermen by petition. On 30th July, 1501, they complained that they were "empouერessed by the multitude as well of ffremen as of fforeyns daily vsyng and occupiying" their craft, and submitted certain proposals for a remedy. These, after due consideration, were agreed to by the Court and ordered, as follows. That everyone following the craft of a bladesmith should be under the rule, search, and correction of the Wardens of that Craft, and that none should strike any mark upon any blades or tools except such mark as should be assigned to him by the Wardens of the Craft of Bladesmiths. Also that none should make search in the Craft of Bladesmiths except the Wardens of that Craft, under a penalty of 6*s.* 8*d.* The next article required all freemen of the Craft and all other persons using the craft to present their apprentices before the Wardens within six weeks after signing the indentures, and to enrol them within the Craft before the end of twelve months. And that they might do better service to their masters, the apprentices were to be "clene of lymme and lith in their bodys without any deformite, for the worshippe of this Cite." The two remaining provisions, entailing the heavy penalty of 20*s.* for their breach, forbade unfitting words in the presence of the Wardens, and going to law one against another without first submitting the dispute



to the Wardens as arbitrators. (See pp. 343-345 for the document at length.)

Another ordinance of the Bladesmiths, the last granted them as a separate Mistery, appears in the City books under the date of 3rd March, 1506-7; it is printed on pp. 345-346. The Armourers had for some time past numbered among their Mistery a certain number of bladesmiths, and the question of their supervision soon became a vexed question between the two Misteries of the Cutlers and Armourers. By this Ordinance the Court of Aldermen decided, with the "assent of bothe the seid Craftes of Armourers and Bladesmiths," that all bladesmiths within the Armourers' Mistery should under penalty of 6s. 8d. be obedient to all the rules and orders of the Mistery of Bladesmiths. They were forbidden, under the same penalty, to employ "any foreyn" except as an apprentice, and were to pay quarterage and all other lawful demands to the Craft of Bladesmiths. Lastly, it was agreed that all bladesmiths within the Craft of Armourers should have a mark assigned to them by the Wardens of the Bladesmiths and that such mark should be enrolled at the Guild-hall, as in the case of members of the Bladesmiths' Mistery. Soon afterwards the Bladesmiths ceased to be a separate Mistery, and these craftsmen were then incorporated first with the Armourers and then with the Cutlers; the occasion of a struggle between the two Misteries which lasted for quite a century. Each kept a watchful and jealous eye upon the other. So early as 1453-4 the Cutlers' accounts record the purchase for 16d. of "a bill of the Serche of the Armorers." In 1497-8 two other entries relate to a dispute concerning one Powle an Armourer:—"Paid for wyne at Tauern whan the answeare was gevyn to the Armorers for Powle, vjd." "Paid for sendyng for Powle Armorer afore the Chamberleyn, viijd."

Bladesmiths' Ordinance, 1506-7.

Assent of the Armourers.

Bladesmiths to control their craft.

Dispute  
between  
Cutlers and  
Armourers.

It is difficult to discover the exact grounds of dispute between the two Companies. The Cutlers had from very early times been makers of swords and spear-heads, besides knives, razors, and other small ware exclusively belonging to their craft. The Armourers at this period seem to have included makers of weapons among their members, and especially bladesmiths. The latter, however, were naturally and by long association more closely allied to the Cutlers. An instance of this affinity is recorded in the minutes of the Court of Aldermen under the date of 8th May, 1515:—"Item yt ys agreed at this Court that William Marler & John Pascall, freemen of the Crafte & Mistery of Armorers forasmoche as they haue no lyvyng or occupying therof but oonly in the Crafte & feate of Cutlers shall be accordyng to their bill of petition translated from the seyd Crafte of Armerers vn to the Craft & Mistery of Cutlers & so graunted by thole assent of this Courte." (*Repertory* 3, f. 22.)

Armourers  
translated to  
Cutlers.

Bladesmiths'  
Mistery  
dissolved.

The Bladesmiths ceased to be a separate Mistery on 25th September, 1515, on which day the Court of Aldermen sanctioned certain Ordinances submitted for their approval by the Mistery of Armourers. The document, which is printed on pp. 347-349, recites a petition to the Court from the Bladesmiths' Mistery praying the Court "to admytte and putte theym in vnyon w<sup>t</sup> the Armorers as oon Company oon Craft oon name & oon assemblee." A long series of articles follows for the regulation of the Armourers' Craft and of the newly-added bladesmiths, the rules for the latter being in substance a renewal of their former Ordinances. Provision is made for transferring to the Armourers apprentices of the Bladesmiths who had not then been made free; the rest of the Bladesmiths were to be translated as a body, and without paying the usual fees to the Chamber. Then follow two clauses which clearly anticipated the reluctance of some bladesmiths, who were more in sympathy with the Cutlers, to accept the new union with the Armourers. The new

United with  
Armourers.

Apprentices  
transferred.



comers were sternly forbidden to "make any privy labour to be translated to any other Craft" under the huge penalty of 4*l.*, other offences being punished with the modest fine of 6*s.* 8*d.* A further clause forbade all search among the Craft except by the Wardens of the Armourers. By another clause all makers of "edge tools" were to be under the rule and correction of the Armourers; as the Cutlers' whole occupation was with edged tools and weapons, this was practically an absorption of their Craft as well as that of the Bladesmiths.

Secession  
from  
Armourers  
forbidden.

The grant of this Ordinance seemed to be a complete victory for the Armourers, but the Cutlers were resolved not to submit to defeat, and in the course of the next two years the dispute broke out anew between the two Crafts. The immediate cause seems to have been the refusal of William Marler, John Pascall, and Marion Garard (or Garret, afterwards the King's bladesmith (see p. 208), to submit to the Armourers' search. Proceedings against these three were instituted by the Wardens of the Armourers in August, 1517 (*Repertory* 3, f. 155b), and both parties were summoned before the Court of Aldermen and agreed to abide by its decision. Meantime the Recorder and Common Sergeant were ordered to "see tholde precedents therof betwen this & fryday cume seuen nyght and then the seyde parties shalbe before theym to shewe what they can concernyng the same." (*Ibid.* foll. 160, 171b.) It soon appeared that many other bladesmiths desired separation from the Armourers; they received active support from the Cutlers, with the result that on 11th March, 1517-18, the Court of Aldermen's decision practically annulled the recent union of the Bladesmiths and Armourers. In a quaintly-worded order (see pp. 349-350) the Court "notw'stand-yng the seyde vnyon" permitted any bladesmith so desirous to "departe from the ffelyship of Armourers vnto the ffelyship of Cutlers" on paying the Chamberlain's fee for translation; those wishing to "contynue styll Armorers" might do so "w'toute

Cutlers and  
Armourers  
at variance.

Resistance to  
Armourers'  
search.

Aldermen's  
decision.

Bladesmiths  
may join  
Cutlers.

Three so  
translated.

eny farther busynes or Charge in that behalff." The above minute further states that Thomas Oks, John Merse, and Thomas Jakson, all bladesmiths, were immediately translated into the Mistery of Cutlers.

Ordinances  
of 1518.

Certain new Ordinances, with a petition, were read in a Court of Aldermen held on 31st August, 1518, and ordered to be entered in the Journal. (*Repertory* 3, f. 226b.) That these did not at once restore peace is evident from the security given a few days before by three armourers, Walter Bryot, William Clerk, and John Rychemond, that their fellow-craftsman, Richard Hunt, should keep the peace towards the men of the Mistery of Cutlers. (*Ibid.* f. 225b.) On the dissolution of the Bladesmiths as a separate Mistery their authority over the craft passed to the Armourers, including the power to grant and oversee the makers' marks. To procure the necessary power to control the marks in use among the bladesmiths attached to their Mistery, the Cutlers on 24th January, 1519-20, obtained from the Court of Aldermen the grant printed on pp. 350-351. A further minute informs us that on the 17th February following, "the Wardayns of Cutlers brought in viij marks in seuerall peces of Stele & prayed that they myght be entred of Recorde with ther names to whom euery marke belongeth." The names and marks follow, and are reproduced in facsimile opposite. It is interesting to note that the names include those of the three bladesmiths who refused to submit to the Armourers' search, and of the other three who were translated to the Cutlers in March, 1517-18. A truce seems now to have been arrived at between the contending Crafts, for we hear no more of appeals to the City authorities for nearly fifty years.

Cutlers to  
grant marks.

Marks  
entered of  
record.

It was necessary to follow the story of the above controversy beyond the period of the present chapter, but the historical narrative must now be resumed. The material for this in the fifteenth century is very scanty; the Company's



Sine impudencie contenti sunt boni et honesti de iacod consensu unanimum assensu  
 et voluntate ordinaverunt et de cetero ipsi predicti assensu hic intuentur de recordo . .  
 modo et forma quibus predicti futuris tempibus firmis observandis . .  
 Et postea dicti xviij die februarii anno predicti concordat est ut sequitur  
 the Chantry of Cantlers brought in by mayster Gerard in the name of the pece of the C. prays  
 that they myght be entred of the C. with the names to be bound and may be brought  
 Et concessit eis eis . .

Willm. **W**illelme / Thomas S. obys mayster **★** Gerard / John **♣** pastur  
 Willm. **♠** mayster / John **♠** mayster / Thomas **♠** pastur / Thomas **♠** pastur

EIGHT CUTLERS' MARKS "ENTERED OF RECORD" IN THE CITY BOOKS, 17th. FEBRUARY 1519-20.

From Letter-Book N, f. 132a. See pp. 350-1 for the document in extenso.





accounts, which begin in 1442-3 and are dealt with in the next chapter, throw very little light upon the Company's public doings, and nothing but incidents more or less isolated can be obtained from other sources.

A proof of the fraternal feeling existing among the Cutlers at this period is found in the will of Richard Twyford, cutler, which was proved on 31st October, 1406 (*See pp. 96-97*). The testator left a third part of his estate to his three children, but if all of them should die before their majority, this portion of his property was to belong to the Wardens of the Craft of Cutlers of London for the time being "for the common use and profit of all the Craft aforesaid, at the discretion of the said Wardens, so that the brethren of the same Craft at all their general gatherings might have his soul in special remembrance in their prayers and devotions for ever." This conditional bequest did not reach the Cutlers, the three children, or some of them, having evidently lived to reach their majority ; but the intention of Richard Twyford was probably known to his contemporaries and doubtless helped by its example to swell the long list of subsequent benefactors.

Richard Twyford's contingent bequest to the Cutlers.

A very remarkable entry occurs in a list of manuscript books extant among the City's Archives in the time of Henry VI. The list is found in *Letter-Book D*, on a fly-leaf following folio 195*b*, and includes the titles of fourteen manuscripts, of which eight still remain in the possession of the Corporation. The ninth book on the list is entitled "*Liber de Arte Cultellariorum*" (Book concerning the Craft of the Cutlers). Unfortunately this volume no longer exists and no other allusion to it can elsewhere be found. This is most disappointing, for with the exception of a book on the Assize of Bread the list contains no other book dealing with a particular Craft ; the information contained in it would have been invaluable.

Lost City book on the Art of the Cutlers.

A Cutler's  
fraudulent  
Freedom.

An interesting case of disfranchisement occurred in 1413. William Wysman, of Waltham, was then found to have obtained the freedom of the City through the Coursers (Horse-dealers), whereas he was following the craft of the Cutlers. For this fraudulent proceeding he was degraded to the position of a "foreigner" or non-freeman, and compelled to surrender the writing that he had of his freedom. The particulars will be found at length on pp. 287-288.

City  
officials for-  
bidden to  
accept vest-  
ments from  
the Mis-  
teries.

The intimate connection that existed between the Corporation of the City and the various Guilds appears in an interesting light in an ordinance of the Mayor and Aldermen dated 13th May, 1415. From the preamble it appears that it had "been consistent with venerable usage for each of the rulers and officers of the City of London, in support of the honour of the said city, to receive either a hood or a vestment each year from the different Crafts of the same city," but that "the custom is hardly able now to get a good word even said in its behalf." The Court, therefore, whilst lamenting "the tendency to obloquy on the part of some people," determined that for the future no Mayor, Alderman, or Sheriff, or any other officer or servant of the said city should "take any livery or vestment from any craft or fraternity within the said city, save only that one craft of which he has been made free." (*Letter-Book I*, f. 153.). The custom had no doubt been abused, and as there were a large number of recipients, its abolition must have afforded the Crafts a welcome relief.

Cutlers'  
Company  
incorporated  
Need for a  
Charter.

We come now to an important event in the history of the Cutlers' Company, its incorporation by Royal charter. The Company received their first charter from King Henry V on 4th December, 1416, the year after that monarch's famous victory at Agincourt, and the fourth of his reign. A chief motive which led the Company to seek incorporation was the need of the Royal authority to hold in mortmain the Watling

Licence  
in mortmain.



Street property which had been held in trust for the Company since 1408. The cost and trouble of obtaining a charter were very great, and the Company had probably been engaged in the wearisome task for a considerable time; unfortunately the records at Cutlers' Hall do not begin till twenty-six years later, and we cannot learn in any detail how the Company's first charter was procured. The preamble to the charter states that much distress and poverty existed in the Company through misfortune befalling its members by losses at sea and elsewhere, thus making them dependent for their support upon the benevolence of Christian people. The Company were therefore minded to make some sure provision for the relief of their poorer brethren. The benevolence of the religious Fraternity connected with the Company had for many years previously been largely applied to the relief of sufferers by storm at sea, fire, or theft, it is strange therefore that a plea of this kind should be urged for the grant of a Royal charter. Perhaps such an appeal was considered more likely to touch the King's sympathy, the more substantial benefits sought for being kept in the background. The charter is printed on pp. 288-290.

Losses of  
Cutlers by  
sea.

Provision for  
their relief.

The incorporation of the Cutlers' Mistery by Royal charter entirely re-organised the governing body. The Mistery had previously been governed by four Rulers or Overseers whose term of office lasted only a year, although the same names occur frequently in the list at intervening and sometimes in successive years. These early officials, too, seem to have had equal authority, and to have been a kind of executive Committee rather than a body of officials each performing certain definite duties. In 1415, the year before the grant of the charter, only three Rulers were elected, but they were sworn like their four predecessors in previous years to rule the Mistery well and truly. Under the charter were created the entirely new offices of Master and two Wardens which have continued through five centuries to the

The Mistery  
re-organised.

New offices  
of Master  
and Wardens

present day. The first Master (whose name appears in the charter) was Richard Wellom, and the first Wardens (also appointed by charter) were Martin Godard and John Chadde, the Master being paramount both in authority and responsibility.

Licence to  
hold lands.

With the authority granted by the charter to hold lands and houses to the value of twenty pounds a year, the organisation of the Company was complete, except for the addition of a Court of Assistants the rudiments of which had long existed in the "ancients" who had already held office as Rulers and were doubtless called in for consultation on important occasions.

Real value of  
the Charter  
estimated.

Too much importance must not be attached to the incorporation of the Company in its *immediate* effect. Apart from the much-needed licence in mortmain and the creation of a perpetual Commonalty, the incorporation left things pretty much as they were before the grant of the charter. The Cutlers received power to elect Master and Wardens, but this was only a confirmation of powers enjoyed and exercised long before, being little more than a change in the names of their rulers. Similarly, under the "Articles" of the Court of Aldermen granted in 1344, they had been empowered to elect their Rulers or Overseers, but like elections had taken place in 1328-9, as shown in the City books, and doubtless much earlier. The real value to the Misteries of their charters was seen *later*, in the increased independence of those bodies. Having each become a corporation, like the City itself, with their privileges approved, confirmed, and often increased, by later charters granted by successive monarchs, and with the resulting wealth and prestige, they became more and more their own masters, with all the obligations and powers attaching to such a condition. The Cutlers of the sixteenth century were very proud of the antiquity of their incorporation, and their Charter Book of that date contains a list of twenty-two of the principal Companies, with the supposed dates of their first incorporation. The list,

Effect on  
precedence.



obviously a poor piece of work, places the Cutlers ninth in antiquity. (*See* p. 290.) The task of preparing such a list, though easier now than in the days of this sixteenth-century scribe, is practically impossible, for the earliest charters of many of the Companies, as well as the material for a complete search, do not exist. It would also be a waste of time, as even a successful attempt to ascertain the dates of their first incorporation would form most unreliable evidence of the relative antiquity of the Companies.

Among the Husting Rolls at Guildhall there is a singular deed (145, 6), dated 28th March, 1417, which closely concerns the Cutlers' Company and some of its prominent members. This document, printed at length on pp. 291-293, is a grant to John Swalwe and Stephen Hermer, cutlers, by John Parker and Thomas Kynton, cutlers, of an annual rent of five marks sterling and four yards of cloth of such colour, and as often as the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Mistery of Cutlers are clothed with, from the clothing prescribed in common for the Fraternity and from the same suit. The grant is for the term of the life of Martin Godard, cutler, and of Marion his wife, and the survivor of either, and is a charge upon property acquired by Parker and Kynton from the executors and supervisor of the will of Adam Fermour, who died in 1395. (*See* p. 90.) Of Stephen Hermer nothing more is known, but Parker, Kynton, and Swalwe, the other parties to the deed, were joint Rulers of the Mistery (and the last holders of such office) in 1415, the year before the incorporation of the Company. On 31st March, three days after the date of this deed, the property above-mentioned formed part of the estate formally handed over to the first Master and Wardens of the Company by Parker and Kynton, who held the estate as feoffees. Martin Godard, on whose life and that of his wife the grant depended, was the Senior Warden, and had frequently held office as Ruler before the

Curious grant by cutlers to cutlers.

Five marks and cloth for livery yearly.

During the lives of Godard and wife.

Charged on property which afterwards came to the Company.

incorporation. The whole proceeding is full of mystery, and there are no contemporary records of the Company to throw light upon it.

Was this a livery of the Mistery?

The interest of this document lies chiefly in the curious information it gives as to the Livery or Clothing. The four yards of cloth yearly granted are to be of the same colour and of the same suit as the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Mistery are clothed with and prescribe for the Fraternity. Whether the Fraternity or the Company is here meant is not clear. The Fraternity was most probably still in existence, but was governed by two Masters, whilst the Company since the grant of its charter in the previous year was ruled by a Master and two Wardens.

The Fraternity had long had a livery.

A Livery had long been in use amongst the Fraternity. The Ordinances of this body in the year 1370 prescribe that the brethren shall attend the annual assembly "clad in a suit of livery of coats," and one of the duties of the Masters of the Fraternity was "to buy their clothing for coats or other vesture for the year next ensuing." How long the Cutlers in their secular organisation as a Mistery or Company had used a Livery does not appear, but their Livery differed from that of the Fraternity in this important respect, that it was granted only to a section of the brotherhood. In 1420, three years later than the Parker and Kynton deed, the grant of the Livery had become a privilege, separating the members of the Company into two classes. One of the new Ordinances of that year gives authority to the Master and Wardens to summon before them all who practise the Mistery, "as well those who are in the Livery and Clothing of the said Mistery as those without"; a fine of 12*d.* for failure to attend on such summons was laid upon "every man and woman free of the said Mistery." It is probable that the governing body at this period was chosen from the Livery alone, as the above Ordinances granted by the Court of

The Livery a separate class in the Mistery.



Aldermen were submitted to that Court by the Master and Wardens "together with the *reputable men* of the said Mistery." But although membership of the Livery was a necessary qualification for the offices of Master and Warden, the right of electing these officials belonged to all who were free of the Company. The "whole Commonalty" attended the peaceable election held on 21st October, 1420, at Marner's Inn, and this assembly of electors certainly included the freemen, and probably the free women, of the Mistery. (See pp. 293-299.) The Livery were now, as in later times, chosen from the wealthier class of the Commonalty; in the assessment for the Clerk's wages in 1488, every person being of the Clothing paid 8*d.*, and every person not of the Clothing 4*d.*; the payment of quarterage also was 4*d.* quarterly for the Clothing, and 2*d.* quarterly for all others occupying a shop. (See p. 342.) The privilege of wearing their livery was also granted by the Company to prominent persons and to public officials who had been of service to the Craft. In 1442-3 a hood was given to Sir John Stiward, afterwards a feoffee of the Company. Two other instances occur in 1465-6:—"Given to thomas Ive a hode (hood) clothe of the lyverey of the Craft price ix*s.*" "Gifen to Percyvale Sergeaunt an hode clothe of the same lyverey price ix*s.*" Women free of the Company had equal privileges with the men, except that they could not obtain the Clothing and so become eligible for office. Not only married women and widows but single women also could carry on business as cutlers, and take boys and girls as apprentices, such apprenticeship duly qualifying for the Freedom; many instances of this will be found in the biographical chapters of this work.

With special privileges.

Honorary liverymen.

Freedom, but not Livery, granted to women.

Less than four years after the grant of the Company's charter the City records reveal a state of great disorder among its members. On the 6th of July, 1420, the Court of Aldermen had under their consideration some long-standing disputes that

Internal disputes.

had arisen between the Masters and Wardens of the Company and the great body of the Commonalty. The latter complained of irregularities in the election of Masters and Wardens, unreasonable ordinances, unjust fines and penalties, and misuse of the Company's property. The Court appointed two prominent citizens, William Estfeld and John Abbot, both members of the Mercers' Company, to enquire into these charges, in the presence of William Multon, Richard Hatfeld, Thomas Warde and John Whestowe, who had not then held office, and were apparently the spokesmen of the complainants. The two commissioners reported on the twelfth of October that one cause of the dissensions arose from certain irritating injunctions placed upon the Company's Book of Ordinances, but that the chief cause of complaint was the secret election, by six or eight men, of the Masters and Wardens of the Company without consulting the general body of the Commonalty. They also summoned before them seven men, viz., Richard Wellom, John Chadde, Martin Godart, William Graunger, John Munt, John Parker, and Peter Tomere, who had lately held office as Masters and Wardens (the first three being the Master and Wardens appointed by the charter), to make account of all money received or levied by them during their periods of office. The examination of their accounts showed arrears amounting to 34*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* due to the Company, which was ordered to be paid before the ninth of November following. One half of these fines the Common Serjeant claimed on behalf of the Mayor for the use of the Chamber, and the other half was returned to the Company for the relief of their poor. All ordinances entered in the Company's Book which had not been sanctioned by the Court of Aldermen were annulled, and a new election was ordered to be held forthwith under the supervision of the two commissioners, to ensure an orderly procedure. The election accordingly took place on the 21st of October at Marner's Inn in the parish of

Commission  
appointed.

Their report.

Secret  
elections.

Arrears of  
accounts.

Illegal orders  
annulled.

New election  
ordered.



St. Mary Aldermanbury, where the whole Commonalty attended and peaceably elected three of the petitioners to the Court of Aldermen, viz., William Multon as Master, and Richard Hatfield and John Whestow as Wardens. Their term of office was to extend to the Feast of the Holy Trinity next following, and for one clear year beyond until the following Feast of Trinity.

The newly-elected Master and Wardens then submitted to the Court of Aldermen for their sanction some new ordinances drafted by them and their colleagues for the future guidance of the Company. These proposals did not all find favour with the Court, but the following were approved and ordered to be entered of record. No one was to be elected as Master or Warden who was not free of the City by birth or apprenticeship within the Mistery, under a penalty of 100s. No one was to be re-elected to either office within five years after serving in such capacity. The Master and Wardens were empowered to call together the whole Company when needful and charge them to observe the lawful ordinances approved by the Court of Aldermen, under a penalty of 12*d.* for non-attendance. None were to take as apprentice any person unless he were of free birth and condition, comely in stature and person, and of full age.\*

Ordinances submitted.

In part approved.

Restrictions on elections.

Apprentices.

The above enquiry took place in the fourth Mayoralty of the celebrated Richard Whittington and offers many points of interest; the document in its original Latin, with a translation, is given at length on pp. 293-299. William Estfeld and John Abbot, the two Commissioners, discharged their task wisely and well. They restored peace and quietness to the Company, and although they found the complaints well-founded, the remedies they proposed met with general acceptance. The trouble was probably of long standing, and one of its chief

Good results of the Commission.

\* "Of old no one was made apprentice, or at all events admitted to the freedom of the said City, unless he was known to be of free condition: and even if, after he had received the freedom, it became known that he was a person of servile condition, through that same fact he lost the freedom of the City." (*Liber Albus*, tr. Riley, 1861, p. 30.)

causes seems to have arisen from the apathy of the general body of the Livery and Freemen who neglected to attend the general assemblies of the Company. As a result, the direction of affairs was left in the hands of a few leading men who re-elected each other to the offices of Master and Wardens. This state of things had existed for several years before the Company's incorporation in 1416, as a glance at the list of Rulers of the Mistery will show. (*Evidences*, p. 242). Both the accused and the complainants were reputable men of the Company; the latter, of whom Richard Hatfield was the most prominent, were probably busy men who shrank from putting forward their claims to offices which others were more eager to fill. The complaint of harsh government was only too well founded, and the large sum of 34*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* in which those lately holding office were in arrear, largely arising from fines, discloses a sad absence of good and honest government and administration. This sum was promptly claimed by the City, who returned one-half for the benefit of the Company's poor. The incorporating charter of 1416 had perhaps been obtained by the influence of a few leading men of the Mistery who secured for themselves the complete direction of the corporate affairs. This happened again nearly two centuries later, and aroused similar opposition on the part of the general body of the Company. Very interesting is the last clause of the new ordinances which provides for the "free birth and condition" and comely appearance of the apprentices of the Company; the craft took great pride in itself in those days.

Funeral of  
Henry V.

On the last day of August, 1422, the country was plunged into deep distress by the death, near Paris, in his early manhood, of the warrior-king Henry V. In the City of London elaborate preparations were made for the attendance of the citizens, headed by the Corporation, at his funeral, the details of which, set out in Letter-Book **K**, are printed on pp. 299-301. The



obsequies in London lasted two days. The Mayor, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and other officials, clad in black robes, went on foot to St. George's Bar, Southwark, to meet the funeral procession and accompany it to St. Paul's Church where the funeral ceremonies took place, and the next day to Westminster for the burial. The Misteries provided three hundred of their members, clothed in white gowns and hoods, to bear torches, and the route of the procession was lined on either side by the inhabitants of the Wards in which it lay. Thirty-two Misteries provided torches (the remains of which were returned to them), varying, according to their ability, from twelve to two; four being the Cutlers' share. The gowns and hoods of the torch-bearers were provided by the Chamberlain at the cost of the Commonalty.

Attended by  
the Mis-  
teries.

The Grinders have already come under notice as a subsidiary craft to that of the Cutlers (*See* p. 33 ). One class of these workmen known as Shear-grinders worked chiefly for the Shermen and Drapers, and their independence and excessive charges were the cause of a curious order made by the Court of Aldermen, on 6th December, 1423, for their better rule and governance. This ordinance in the quaint English of the beginning of Henry VI's reign will be found on pp. 301-2. It appears that the industry was then, and had long been, in the hands of a very few workmen, two or three at the most, whose labour was exclusively confined to grinding and repairing shermen's shears, which were most necessary tools in the cloth trade, under the rule of the great Crafts of Drapers and Shermen. The Mayor and Aldermen, after consultation with these two Crafts, fixed the price for "gistryng" and grinding a pair of new shears at 2s., with a charge of 8*d.* for grinding and setting "an other shere redy gisted." A sherman who sent his shears to be ground was ordered to find two men to turn the stone, and any dispute as to payment was to be decided by the Wardens

Shear-grind-  
ing.

A mono-  
poly.

City regu-  
lations, 1423.

A foreign  
workman.

of the Shermen. Lastly, the shear-grinders were to attend the Shermen at their houses for all kinds of repair to shears except grinding. One of these privileged workmen, a naturalised foreigner, is named in April, 1436, in a list attached to a mandate to all bailiffs and others "to permit certain foreigners who have taken an oath of fealty to inhabit the realm peaceably and enjoy their goods." He is described as "James Framworthan, shergrynder, born in Worthe in Holand, dwelling in London." (*Patent Roll* 14, Hen. VI, pt. 2, m. 32.)

A privileged  
body.

These privileged workmen continued to be exempt from the regulations made for the general class of grinders; these last being under the authority of the Bladesmiths, and later under that of the Cutlers. In the Ordinances of the Bladesmiths of 1463 (p. 335), fines are imposed on grinders for bad workmanship and for street-hawking, the latter practice continuing to give trouble to a much later date.

Commons'  
Petition for  
oversight of  
Ordinances  
of Guilds.

Twenty years after the incorporation of the Cutlers' Company an important legal enactment was passed which affected all the Companies, in common with other incorporated guilds and fraternities, throughout the kingdom. In the fifteenth year of Henry VI (1436-7), the Commons petitioned the King complaining that the Masters, Wardens, etc., of several guilds, fraternities, and other companies incorporate, in various parts of the kingdom, under colour of their charters, made unreasonable ordinances, and also corrected offences the punishment of which solely belonged to the King and others. They therefore asked that all such incorporated bodies should bring and cause to be registered of record before the authorities of cities, burghs, and towns, in which such guilds were situated, all their letters patent and charters. A translation of the petition is given by Herbert in his *History of the Livery Companies* (vol. I, pp. 106-7.) This petition was granted by the King and became the statute 15 Henry VI, capp. 6, 7. (*Rolls of Parliament* 4, 507.)



In compliance with this statute the Cutlers presented their charter for enrolment in the City's books in 1439. (*Letter-Book K*, pp. 226-7.) The terms of the charter exactly follow those of Henry V's grant, but the date is given as 4th December, 4 Henry VI. In the Company's later charters also, reciting the text of the charter of Henry V, this charter is assigned to his successor Henry VI. Stow also, and other London historians, assigned the date of the Company's first charter to the reign of Henry VI; Maitland alone (in describing the Company's Arms) gives the reign as that of Henry V, and a correct reference to the Patent Rolls. (*History of London*, v. 2, p. 1244.) Whilst this curious confusion has arisen concerning the grant of the *first* charter, which undoubtedly belongs to Henry V's reign, there is much evidence, both from the Company's own records and from outside sources, to indicate that a *confirmatory* charter was granted to the Company by Henry VI. As an instance of this, letters patent of his *then* Majesty granted to the Company of Cutlers are cited in a demise to the Company of their Cloak Lane property, dated 20th May, 1451, 29 Henry VI. (*Charter Book*, fol. 118.) An extended search for this charter at the Public Record Office has yielded no result.

Charter of the Cutlers enrolled.

Supposed charter of Henry VI.

The officials of the Company seem to have been held in high reputation for learning and skill in legal matters. In 1461-2 the Pewterers' Company sought help from the Cutlers, and the following entry appears in their accounts for that year:—"Item geven to certeyn men at Cutlers halle to axe hem counsell of certeyn maters touchyng the comon wele, for to drynk, 8d." (Welch, *Hist. of Pewterers' Co.*, vol. I, p. 28.)

The Pewterers consult the Cutlers' officials.

One of the earliest measures of Edward IV's reign, designed to protect the trade interests of the country, was the Act of 1463 (3 Edw. IV, c. 4) prohibiting the import of "wares ready wrought," on pain of forfeiture. The list of wares, an extensive one, includes the following articles of cutlery: "knyves, daggers,

Cutlery imports prohibited.

wodeknyves, boytkyns, sheres for taillours, cisours, rasours, shethes." Equally desirous of pleasing the citizens by promoting the commerce of London and of the country generally, Richard III in the first year of his reign prohibited merchant strangers from bringing into the realm for sale various goods, including knives, hangers, tailors' shears, and scissors. (*Statute* 1 Richard III, cap. 12.)

Royal and  
Civic pro-  
cessions.

The Cutlers, now increased in wealth and dignity, took their fair share in the pomp and show which was so notable a feature of civic life in the fifteenth century. On the occasion of a Royal progress through the City, the various Misteries were summoned by the Mayor to attend him and his civic brethren in welcoming the sovereign and conducting him through his City of London. Each Mistery was appointed to furnish, according to its standing, a certain number of its members clad in costly attire to take part in the civic procession, and the details of these requisitions recorded in the City books show the relative importance of the Misteries at various periods. These lists, of which a selection is printed on pp. 330-334, throw an interesting light on the varying order of precedence of the Companies which was not finally settled until a much later period. The particulars here following are chiefly from the City books, supplemented by the Company's earliest accounts. The earliest pageant in which the Cutlers took part of which reliable particulars are preserved is the reception of Queen Margaret, newly married to King Henry VI, who passed through the City on 30th April, 1445, on her way to be crowned at Westminster. The Cutlers "rode" with the other Crafts to meet the Queen, and the following curious note appended to the accounts of that year shows that elephants were made for the occasion, probably as a decoration for the costume or habiliments used in the pageant:—"M<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup> de isto summo allocavit Magister pro Elephantibus faciendis pro equitatione

Part taken  
by the Mis-  
teries.



erga Reginam xxxviijs. Et debet adhuc xxxvs. viij*d*. Quos Magister et gardiani soluerunt super compotum."

On 18th February, 1462-3, the Misteries were summoned to meet King Edward IV on his return to London after his great victory over the Lancastrians at Towton. The Mayor and Aldermen were to ride on horseback in their scarlet robes, accompanied by the Commonalty also mounted and by parties of horsemen furnished by the various Misteries. The Mercers, Drapers, Grocers, and Taylors, provided 24 horsemen each, and the rest of the Guilds according to their ability. The list (*see* p. 329) includes 39 Misteries, arranged roughly according to their importance and standing; the Cutlers are seventeenth in order and supplied six horsemen, five of the poorest Misteries furnished two each. Five days later, on 23rd February, a message came from the King that he would come to London from Sheen (now Richmond) in his barge, upon the water of Thames, where-upon the City decided to accompany the King in their barges. The Companies also joined the Royal procession both by water and land, the cost to the Cutlers being just under one pound: "paid for a barge to Westmynstre to the kyng, 6*s*. 2*d*." "Paid to iiij men of the said Craft toward their costs of their gownes and horses for to ride to mete the kyng commying to london, 13*s*. 4*d*." (*Accounts*, 2-3 Edw. IV.) The City received only one day's notice of the King's altered plans, but both they and the Misteries were ready with their barges. On 26th May, 1465, the Misteries again assembled to attend the Queen's progress to the Tower of London before her Coronation at Westminster. They furnished fifty-six horsemen robed in cloaks of murrey and in the same proportion for each Guild as before, the Cutlers being twentieth on the list. (*See* pp. 330-331.) The cloth bought for these "gownes" cost the Company 40*s*. (*Accounts*, 4-5 Edw. IV.)

Edward IV's first visit.

Land and water pageant.

The Cutlers' horsemen and barge.

Coronation of Edward IV's Queen.

The City records are silent as to Edward's own Coronation, but the Company's Accounts (1-2 Edw. IV) tell us that 53*s*. 4*d*.

was "paid in money gifen to certayn persones of the said Craft for their gownes for to ride and mete the kyng commyng than to his Coronacion." Of the above sum 32s. 6d. was contributed by brethren of the Craft. Edward, always assured of a warm welcome from the Londoners, frequently visited the City, and the Cutlers' Accounts tell of three Royal processions later in his reign. In the Craft-year 1470-1, the King again came to London by water, when the Cutlers spent "for the hire of the Barge for to mete the kyng, 8s. 4d.," and "in expenses for riding ayenst the kyng, 40s." The second occasion was in 1473-4, when 33s. 4d. was "paid to Gyles West for vj yerds and iij quarters for iij Gownes for the seid Maister and Wardeyns to ryde for to mete the kyng." More details are given (*Accounts*, 1475-6) of the expenses incurred at King Edward's next visit:—"Paid for xiiij yerdes and a half of murrey clothe price the yerde iij*s.* iiij*d.* for vj gownes for the vj men that rode ayenst the kyng. Summa xl*vs.*" "Item paid to eueryche of the same vj men in reward i*js.* vj*d.* x*vs.*"

Later visits  
of Edward  
IV.

Reception  
of Edward V.

Edward the Fourth's ill-fated son, the young King Edward V, was met by the citizens on 4th May, 1483, having been brought to London for the coronation which his untimely fate prevented. Fifty-two Misteries were represented by 410 horsemen, the Cutlers again supplying six riders and ranking as the fifteenth Mistery. (*See* p. 331.) Richard III was crowned on 6th July following, but no particulars are preserved of the part taken by the City Guilds in his coronation procession. The Londoners, however, joined in another Royal reception in November of the same fateful year 1483, on the return of Richard from putting down the rebellion of the Duke of Buckingham. (*See* p. 332.) The Cutlers were fifteenth among the fifty-two Guilds, and sent six murrey-clad horsemen at "costys" to the Craft of 26*s.* 8*d.* (*Accounts*, 1 Edw. V—1 Rich. III.)

Visit of  
Richard III.



Hen. VII's  
entry into  
London.

The City  
watched by  
the Mis-  
teries.

The "March-  
ing Watch."

Five days after his victory on Bosworth Field, Henry VII entered London on 27th August, 1485. The notice must have been short, but the citizens prepared the usual welcome, and the Cutlers' accounts record the payment of 3*l.* "for the clothyng of vj persones of the seid crafte whiche rode with the Maire for to receyve the kyng into the Citee." There was probably some fear of disturbances, for the next entry reads: "Item paid for brede and ale gebyn to diuers other persones of the seid Crafte whiche wacched within the Citee the same xxvij day of August, 20*d.*" A similar precaution was observed a few weeks before, when "the Maire rode aboute the Citee the first day of August," at a cost to the Company of 11*d.* for like refreshment. The duty of watching the City was often laid upon the Misteries at this period. In June, 1483, they were required to keep guard in "le Chepe" from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and in Cornhill for the same hours, 110 and 107 men being furnished respectively for these stations; sixty-six Misteries took part, the Mercers supplying 12 watchmen, the Cutlers 3, and several of the smaller Misteries 1 each. (*See* pp. 332-3.) In October following, the call was for night duty, from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., when the Cutlers supplied 2 men only. (*Journal* 9, f. 36.) In 1496 the Company paid 9*s.* 4*d.* "for bendis at the generall watche," 12*d.* for "mak-yng" them, and 1*d.* "for pynnys" (pins); these "bendis" were perhaps bands or sashes. They also paid 6*d.* "for brede and ale geven to the watchemen at the hall." (*Accounts*, 11-12 Hen. VII.) The duties of watching fell no doubt to the journeymen or poorer freemen, whilst the horsemen for "Ridings" were chosen from the wealthier liverymen or Assistants of the Company. The above service must not be confused with the Marching Watch, a costly pageant which marched through the City on the eve of St. John the Baptist (23rd June) and the night of St. Peter (29th June). An entry in the Account for 16-17 Edw. IV shows that the Cutlers

took their part in this pageant also :—"Paid for hire of archers to wacche atte seynt Petir nyght, 7s. 8d."

Henry VII's  
Coronation.

Henry was crowned at Westminster on 30th October, when the Misteries duly attended, and the Cutlers paid "for the hire of the barge atte the receyuyng of the kyng from Shene to Westminster and for vitaill spent vpon the feliship of the seid crafte the same tyme, 30s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d." During the first few years of his reign Henry VII paid several state visits to the City of London. At one of these, in October, 1487, sixty-five Guilds sent 434 of their members clothed in violet, the Cutlers taking their usual part. (*See pp. 333-334.*) The accounts for 4-5 Hen. VII show the payment of 19s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "for the hire of the barge to receyve the prynce and for mete and drynk and other costs atte that tyme." Two years later, the modest sum of 3d. was paid "for brede and ale expendid in our hall when the kyng came to london"; on the same occasion the sum of 40s. was "Paid for iiij rydyng gownes at the rydyng with the kyng."

The King's  
later visits.

The King of  
France's  
obit.

A very curious and obscure entry appears in the Cutlers' accounts of 12-13 Hen. VII, "Paid for brede and ale that day the obite was kept at Powles for the Kyng of ffraunce, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d." The King thus remembered was Charles VIII of France, who died in 1498 and was succeeded by Louis XII; the Cutlers must have attended the service at St. Paul's as one of the City Misteries, for there is no evidence of their having special relations with France or its Court; no light is thrown upon the matter by historians of this period.

Visit of the  
Queen  
Mother.

The cost to the Company of attending one of these Royal processions is given in the Accounts of the year 1480-1, when the Lady Margaret, mother of Henry VII, visited London; the items are as follows:—"Paid for the hire of a barge atte the commyng in of my lady Margarete, 14s. 8d. Paid for the dyner of the Bargemen, 20d. Paid for brede and ale spent amongst the feliship, 10d. Paid to the taburretts at the same tyme, 4d.



Paid for newe refresshyng of the Baners of the Crafte, 5s. Paid for the hire of a barge at the departyng of my said lady Margarete, 12s. 2d. Paid for brede and ale and vitail spent amongs the ffeliship, 8s. 2d. Paid for ale at the Bargeman's hous, 2s."

Besides their attendance at Royal processions through the City, the Cutlers took their part each year in the "Ridings" of the Mayor and the Sheriffs. On 13th October, 1409, the Court of Aldermen passed an order regulating the attendance of the Companies at the Mayor's Riding, which had apparently grown to much excess of display. No minstrels were thenceforth to ride before any Mistery of the City, but only before the Mayor, and then only three bands or companies at the most. (*Letter-Book I*, f. 87.) In 1442-3, the year of the Cutlers' Company's earliest Account, the cost of hiring a barge to Westminster "with the Sheriffs" figures at 4s., and at the Mayor's Riding the beadle was paid 8d. for his horse hire. In 1464-5 there was "Yoven to certeyn persones of the said Craft of Cotillers for the costs of their dyner whan the Maire rode to Westminster, 12d." Four years later a similar charge amounted to 5s. 7d. On these gala days the Company brought out their banners, which were constantly in need of repairs; in 1461-2 a considerable sum was thus spent, 9s. was paid for "Tarteron for the Baners," 3s. 1d. for "frenge," 8d. for "Bokeram," and John Crosse, Steynour, received the large sum of 46s. 8d. for "betyng of the same Baners"; 12d. was also paid for a "Baner-staf." On the accession of Henry VII a supply of new banners was found necessary, the cost, 3l. 18s. 11d., being subscribed for by "dyuers persones" of the Craft.

The Civic  
"Ridings."

Purchase  
and repair  
of banners.

Towards the close of this century the Company obtained a grant of their Arms, viz., Gules, three pairs of swords in saltire argent, hilts and pommels or. Crest. An elephant's head couped gules, armed or. This grant was made by Thomas Holme,

Grant of  
Arms.

Confirma-  
tions.

Supporters  
and new  
Crest, 1622.

Probable  
still earlier  
Grant.

Clarencieux King of Arms, on 7th May, 1476, and was confirmed by later grants. The originals of all these grants are lost, but some particulars of them are recorded in the College of Arms in the book of the Visitation of London in 1634 (2nd C. 24, p. 199), as follows: "The first Armes and Crest were granted to the worshipfull Company of Cutlers by Thomas Holme, Clarenceux, vnder the seale of his Armes the 7 of May anno 1486 (? 1476) w<sup>ch</sup> said Armes and creast were confirmed & approved by Thomas Benolt, Clarenceux, the 12 of October in the 22 of H: 8 in his visitacion then made and afterwards confirmed by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, 22 of October, 1590. Last of all Sr W<sup>m</sup> Segar K<sup>t</sup>, Garter principall king of Armes, being a brother of that Company doth not only confirme the said Coate and alter the Creast but addeth therevnto Supporters in Manner as is aboue depicted by Pattent dated 10 of May 20 of King James. ffrancis Cobb Master, Joseph Rogers and W<sup>m</sup> Poulton, Wardens, Robert Jadwin Clarke." The arms "aboue depicted," with the supporters and new crest, are in trick, and there is another trick of the shield only with the old crest, but there is no narrative blazon. The date of 1486 assigned in the above record to the Grant by Thomas Holme is certainly a mistake for 1476, the date given by all other authorities. The record at the College of Arms is not contemporary, and the mistake perhaps arose from the fact that the Company's arms were confirmed in 1485-6. We learn this from the Master's accounts for that year: "Paid for silke and frenge for the said baners and for the betyng of the golde steynyng and makyng of the same baners and for confermyng of the armes of the seid crafte as yt apperith by a bill of the parcells therof shewid atte this accompte, 6*l.* 5*s.* 9½*d.*" It is quite possible that the Company obtained a still earlier grant of Arms (even before that of 1476) of which no record exists. As early as 1470-1 the elephant appears to have been in common use as a







1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

#### ANCIENT SEALS.

1. Seal of Adam de Masschebury. 2. Seal of William Billok. Matrix (3, 4) and impression (5) of the Company's official seal.



mark upon their plate. The following entry occurs in the accounts of that year : " Paid for the amending of the bossell of the maser\* with the Olivaunt in the prynte." When the Cutlers took part in the City welcome given to Queen Margaret on her marriage with King Henry VI in 1444-5, they wore elephants as decorations in their " Riding " either on their coats or shields. (*See* p. 132.)

The elephant is the earliest known device adopted by the Company and may have figured in their earliest coat. It appears as a sign of a London house early in the fifteenth century ; on 18th July, 1411, the City records contain an order for " The sign of the Elephant (signum Olifanti) in Chepe to remain with Simon Sewale, saddler." (*Letter-Book* I, f. 106b.) The elephant and castle belongs to a much later period, being granted to the Company as their Crest in 1622 ; it will be discussed in a subsequent chapter. The use of the elephant by the Cutlers in their Arms seems to have reference to the ivory so largely employed by the Craft in the costly work of hafting swords, knives, and other weapons (*see* pp. 327-8) ; it certainly formed a handsome and (among other City Companies) unique† design for their coat-armour. The elephant is seldom found as a device in English heraldry.

" Elephant,"  
the earliest  
device.

Ivory used  
by Cutlers.

The Company's old seal is a fine piece of fifteenth century art, the matrix being in perfect preservation. (*See* illustration opposite.) It is circular and  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter, and bears the ancient shield of arms and crest, with decorative mantling. The inscription, in Gothic letters, is " Pervenir a bonne foy " (To attain fidelity), doubtless the original and correct form of the Company's motto, which later became " *Pour* parvenir

Company's  
seal.

Ancient  
motto.

\* A mazer was a highly-prized bowl of maple wood, with a silver rim and an engraved silver boss inserted in the bottom of the vessel.

† The Comb-makers (a seventeenth century Company, long extinct) had for their crest an elephant standing on a mount against a tree, and the Royal African Company bore as their principal charge an elephant and castle. (Welch, *Coat-Armour of the Livery Companies*, pp. 6, 37.)

Its French  
wording  
unique.

a bonne foy." It is curious that the Cutlers' is the only City Company that has or had a French motto, with the single exception of the Ironmongers, whose old motto (now disused) was "Assher (*Acier*) dure," i.e., "Hard steel." The earliest notice of the seal is an item in the accounts of 1494-5 recording the payment of 6s. 8d. by John Carpenter, skinner, for its use in setting seal to his lease. This seal was probably made soon after 1476 when the Company received their grant of Arms, but there may have been an earlier seal, as by their charter of 1416 they were empowered to hold property and would require a corporate seal for the necessary deeds; perhaps the "olivaunt" in some form or other served this purpose.

Craft trans-  
lations with-  
out City's  
consent for-  
bidden.

In the latter part of the fifteenth century an important order was made by the Court of Aldermen which was necessitated by the frequent disputes which arose between various Companies of the City. On the 27th August, 1484, the Mayor and Aldermen made an act forbidding translations from one Craft to another without the consent of the Court of Aldermen. (*Rep.* 2, f. 51b.) This act was confirmed, and ordered to be observed and kept, in 1508 (24 Henry VII). The authority of the Mayor and Aldermen was again exercised over the whole of the Companies on 1st December, 1491 (7 Henry VII), when a gathering of the Wardens of all the Misteries was summoned to the Guildhall. "This day it is comaunded to the Maisters and Wardeyns to see that good Rule be kept amongs their fealiships and that the same Maisters and Wardeyns shall call their fealiships afore theym and to showe theym the same Commaundement, charyng them that they kepe a due ordre for them and their seruants." (*Journal* 9, f. 282.)

Cutlers'  
Ordinances  
of 1485.

The Company had for some time been in difficulties with their apprentices and journeymen, and with a view to obtain extended authority over them approached the Court of Aldermen for the grant of new Ordinances. On 13th June, 1485, in



compliance with their petition, the Court approved certain articles submitted for the above purpose by the Company, which will be found printed at length on pp. 337-341. They complain that "many simple people" take more apprentices than they can "susteyn," turning them over at a profit to other "simple people" who have not the ability to teach them the "feats" of the said craft. Among the mischievous results of this, so their complaint runs, many apprentices for lack of employment have left the City to teach trade secrets in other places, returning again to the City "vnto the grete hurt of the said Crafte." Other apprentices joined themselves as partners, three or four together, and opened shop in secret places where they worked by night as well as day in defiance of the Company's Ordinances. Also to avoid search by the Master and Wardens, they employ "foreyns," and send out their wares to be wrought in places outside the jurisdiction of the City. Cutlers who have duly served their apprenticeship have thus "for lacke of occupacion become idle and vagabunds and haue none occupacion wherby they may gete their lyvyng." An offence of a still more serious character is alleged against many persons of the Craft, that of working on "vigill Eves" of Saints' days and "Saterdaies at afternone."

Too many apprentices.

Mischievous results.

Partnerships

Numbers idle.

As a remedy for these serious troubles the draft regulations which follow were prepared by the Company, and approved by the Court of Aldermen. To reduce the number of apprentices each liveryman was limited to two, and a past Master or Warden to three at most, it being permitted to take a new apprentice in the last year of the term of one whose term was about to expire. The Master and Wardens were also strictly to enforce the former rule requiring the apprentice to be "not disfigured in his body." (This is emphasised in the City Letter-Book by an unmistakeable N.B. in the margin.) A fee of 8s. was to be paid for each apprentice, and a fine of 100s. for infraction of

Remedies.

Apprenticeship regulations.

the ordinance. The turning over of apprentices was forbidden except by licence of the Master and Wardens and the advice of the Chamberlain ; the sum to be paid by the new Master to the old was also to be approved or fixed by the Chamberlain. To make the prohibition of night work more clear it was ordered that no work should be done before four o'clock in the morning or after eight o'clock at night between Ladyday and Michaelmas ; from Michaelmas to Ladyday the hours were six in the morning and six in the evening. The work so prohibited is described as " to portraie, gylde, drawe, varnyssh, shave, burnysshe, and police (polish)." It was permitted, however, " to werke vnto ix of the Clocke in furbyng and glasyng and to leve werke than." By the next article it was forbidden to set a pommel of latten (fine brass) upon a gilt blade. The following provision gives a curious list of cutlery wares of this date. London cutlers were forbidden to " put oute or delyuer to be made or wrought " outside the City's boundaries " woodeknyfes, hangars, whynyerds, trenchour knyffs, ffyles, syngles, peres, knyffetts, oyster knyfes, bodekenes." The next clause seems to aim at the suppression of the small and struggling masters, on the plea of preventing secret working. It was forbidden to work " within any Aley Chambre garet or in any other secrete place but oonly in open Shoppe or open houses by the Strete side " that the work might be duly searched by the Master and Wardens. No cutler was to take a " partyng ffelowe " (partner) without licence from the Master and Wardens ; such partners were not to occupy any house, shop, or chamber, or any place together as " party ffelowes," nor to have any tool or instrument pertaining to the Craft as partners. For such poor craftsmen it was somewhat harshly provided that since they were not of ability to take house and shop themselves they should be put to service " vnto suche tyme as they been of Power to take hous or Shoppe vppon theym self," under penalty of 20s. for

Regulation  
of night  
work.

Various  
processes.

Cutlers'  
wares.

Secret  
working.

Partnership  
regulated.

Poor cutlers.



disobedience. All masters and those in their employ were forbidden to work or sell their goods on "any Saturday vigil" or the eve of any Festival, after three o'clock in the afternoon, under penalty of 3s. 4d. Any freeman duly apprenticed who should be absent from the City for a year and a day, and should teach his craft "without the said ffraunchise," was to be reputed as a "foreyn" and to be dismissed from the Freedom for ever. The penalty for not submitting to the rules and ordinances of the Craft was increased by the Court of Aldermen to 13s. 4d. from 6s. 8d., the amount fixed by the Ordinances of 1379-80. (See p. 262.)

Holy days.

Absence from City.

Fines increased.

The strict supervision exercised by the Mayor and Aldermen over the various Misteries is shown by an order passed by that Court on 14th December, 1487. The Misteries were forbidden to make any ordinances not previously approved by the Court, whereupon the Wardens of several Guilds brought in their books, from which the leaves containing the offending ordinances were torn out and the ordinances cancelled. The Cutlers were among the offenders, and on 18th July, 1488, made due submission to the Mayor and Aldermen, presenting at the same time certain draft ordinances for their approval. Having procured from the Aldermen less than three years before a new set of Ordinances, they passed the ordeal very well. The new powers sought, which they confessed to have long used without authority, relate wholly to fees and fines imposed upon their members; these were readily granted by the Court. The City evidently determined to keep absolute control over the Guilds, and it is probable that instances of severe treatment of their members by some of the Guilds had been brought under the notice of the Mayor and Aldermen. This Ordinance, printed at length on pp. 341-2, throws interesting light on the inner life of the Company. The first provision is for payment of quarterage which is fixed at 4d. quarterly for the livery or clothing, and 2d.

Oversight of Ordinances.

Cutlers' submission.

Ordinance of 1488.

Quarterage. for such of the freemen as keep shop. The payment of quarterage goes back to the earliest days of the Mistery, and it could not have needed a sanction in the fifteenth century. Perhaps an explanation may be found in the increased amount, which in the case of the livery had risen from the modest penny to four pence per quarter. It seems likely also that part of the sum collected went to the Master and Wardens "for diligence and labor made aboute the Serche," their reward for which under the Ordinances of 1379-80 was one-third of the fines taken from offenders. The remaining provisions of the Ordinance refer to the Clerk's salary and to fines. A journeyman absent from his master's house without leave was fined a week's wages, and the fine for a master conniving at such absence was 3s. 4d. To enforce discipline, the heavy penalty of 13s. 4d. was imposed upon any who should "rebuke or revile" the Master or Warden. If the above were all the illegalities the Cutlers had to declare, the Company must be considered fortunate. Their petition was favourably received by the Aldermen, the articles of the new Ordinance confirmed, and with the quite recent grant of more extended powers, their ability to rule the internal concerns of the Craft was firmly secured for many future years.

Clerk's salary.  
Fines.

For absence.

For misbehaviour.

Articles approved.

Knives not provided at feasts.

Guests bring their own.

The costliness and profusion of the banquets given at the various City Halls at this period offer a striking contrast to the poverty of the service provided for the guests. The meat was served to the guests, who cut it up on their trenchers with their own clasped knives. Chaucer describes the equipment of five of his Canterbury Pilgrims who were liverymen of City Guilds :

"An Haberdasher, and a Carpenter,  
A Webbe, a Deyer, and a Tapiser,  
Were alle yclothed in a livere,  
Of a solempne and grete fraternite.  
Ful freshe and newe hir gere ypiked was.  
Hir knives were ychaped not with bras,  
But all with silver wrought ful clene and wel."



In the "Babees Book" (Early English Text Society, 32, p. 67), the carver's duties are thus described :—"The Carver hath authoritye to carve to all at hys maisters messe, and also vnto other that syt ioyning by them, if he list : see ye haue Voyders ready for to auoyd the morsels that they doe leaue on their Trenchours. Then with your Trenchour knyfe take of (off) such fragments, and put them in your Voyder, and sette them downe cleane agayne." In an inventory of the Merchant Taylors' Company of 1491 only one pair of knives is found, and these were probably for the carver's use ; from a later record (14th July, 1610) it appears that the Company acquired three table knives, a standing carver's knife, and a chipping knife, from their carver, who was retiring upon a pension. (Clode, *Early History*, 1, pp. 99, 287.)

Merchant  
Taylors'  
inventories.

It is a clear sign of the growing wealth of the Companies that they were summoned not only to take their part in the costly processions of this period, but also to contribute in their corporate capacity to the special needs of the City. Each craftsman householder was called upon in his own ward and parish to meet the charges of local government, and it is not surprising that some unwillingness was found on the part of the citizens to be taxed again in their Mистерies. An attempt in this direction made by the Common Council in 1492 met with but slight success. On 10th June in that year the following entry is found in the City books. (*Journal* 9, f. 293b.)

Misteries  
taxed for  
the City's  
charges.

"Thise been the Crafts that haue doon their Costs to the Reparacions of the walls, Mercers, Grocers, Drapers, ffisshmongers, Goldsmythes, Taillours, Skynners. Thise ben the Crafts that must be desired to do their Cost vppon the Reparacion of the walls and yit haue nothyng doon." The latter list includes fifty-one Crafts, beginning with the Haberdashers, including the Cutlers, and ending with the Staynours.

Contribute  
to repair of  
the walls.

## CHAPTER IV.

INNER LIFE OF THE COMPANY, FROM A.D. 1442 TO A.D. 1499.

The Com-  
pany's 15th  
century  
accounts.



FOR the latter half of the fifteenth century we are no longer dependent wholly upon outside sources for particulars concerning the Company, but have valuable help from the Company's earliest records. The Cutlers' Company is fortunate in possessing a series of accounts covering the period between the years 1442-3 and 1498-9. These consist of annual rolls (some twenty years being wanting) containing details of the Company's receipts and expenditure kept by the Master and Wardens and by the Renter respectively. There are thirty-seven rolls in all, each  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in width, composed of long strips of parchment attached to each other by sewing and forming a continuous roll of about nine feet in length. The accounts, with a few exceptions, are in excellent condition, and cover the regnal years 20-21 Henry VI to 13-14 Henry VII; there are also five Renters' rolls from 1680 to 1735. (*See list on pp. 302-303.*) These rolls were found amongst a large quantity of expired leases stored away in tin boxes and had evidently not been examined for a lengthy period, being labelled "old deeds," and some of them being tied with string which had lost all its virtue through age. Although beautifully written, it is clear that they must either have escaped notice for several centuries or have proved too hard a puzzle to be made out, as there is no record of their existence in any of the inventories, minute books, or other later muniments of the Company.\* A reproduction in facsimile of a

Annual rolls  
on parch-  
ment.

Well  
preserved.

\* The following memorandum in a seventeenth century hand is on the back of the account for 36-7 Henry VI: "Since this Acc<sup>o</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> 27 Yea<sup>r</sup>e of King Charles y<sup>e</sup> Second Ann<sup>o</sup> 1675 it is 237." The calculation is twenty years out, but it appears that someone in Charles II's reign knew of the existence of this old account.









portion of the first account faces this page. In the initial capital of the account for 1468-9 are the words " Maria gracia."

The series begins twenty-six years after the incorporation of the Company by Henry V in 1416, and gives a valuable picture of the early corporate life of the Company which could not have been obtained from any other source, carrying down the story to the early Tudor period. The method of keeping the accounts in a yearly parchment roll, instead of in a book, is in itself interesting and somewhat unusual. The subject matter of these old documents will be best understood by a study of the first account which is printed in full on pp. 303-310. It will be seen from the payments of arrears that this account of 20-21 Henry VI (Trinity, 1442, to Trinity, 1443) is only one of a series, the earlier items of which went back probably to very ancient times, but are unfortunately lost. The form of the account suggests a strong probability that the accounts appeared in this style before the Company's incorporation in 1416, and indeed for many years previously when the Cutlers existed only as a fraternity governed by four Wardens.

Exhibit the  
Company's  
inner life.

Analysis of  
first account.

Further, these interesting documents by comparison with accounts of other Companies of the same period or earlier, throw some light upon the vexed question of the origin of the ancient London guilds. It will be seen that the account is in two parts, each divided into receipts and payments with totals and a balance; the first is kept by the Master and Wardens, the second by the Rent-gatherer or Renter. The receipts in the Master's account consist of fees for membership, under the heads of apprenticeship bindings, admissions of freemen, and quarter-age paid by members. To these are added receipts for hire of the Hall and the (pewter) " vessell " of the House. The expenditure of the Master is divided into Payments and Allowances. The former include the up-keep of the Hall, attendance at the Sheriffs' pageant, election bread and wine, almsfolks' pensions

The Master's  
account.

and feast-pence, and payments to the wax-chandler. The Allowances include charges for the obit at St. Martin's and the offering at Charterhouse, a hood for Sir John Stiward (afterwards a feoffee of the Company), and expenses of the Master and Wardens' dinner. The Master's receipts amount to 8*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, with a total expenditure of 14*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.* The Rent account is more simple. The Receipts consist of payments of rent and arrears amounting to 25*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* The payments include property charges and repairs, the Rent-gatherer's fee and potations, payment to the Raker (a parish official), washing clothes (*i.e.*, cloths or napery), and payments to the Bedell for his clothing and for the Mayor's Riding. The payments amount to 4*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, showing a favourable balance of 18*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* Deducting the deficit on the Master's account, the net balance was 12*l.* 16*s.* 6½*d.*

The Rent-gatherer's account.

The dual form points to an earlier period.

The interesting feature of these accounts is their dual form, which unmistakeably points to the period when the London Cutlers existed as a Fraternity and a Craft. The Master's account was the successor of the account of the Fraternity. This is seen by the inclusion amongst the receipts of *Quarterage*, a payment which takes us back to the very origin of the guild\* system. Again, among the payments, the pensions to almsfolk, expenses of the annual election, and the charges at the religious service held for the repose of the souls of the brethren, clearly point to the original constitution of the religious Fraternity. In some of the older Companies, this first portion of the dual account was known as the "Box de Dieu," whilst the latter portion was called the "Temporal Box." This would probably also be found to have been the case with the Cutlers' Company had the accounts for some thirty years earlier been preserved.

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\* The derivation of the word guild from the Anglo-Saxon verb "gildan," to pay, records the primary obligation of every member of a guild to pay his penny to the common fund. The payment of *Quarterage* was not abolished in the Cutlers' Company until 1831, and is still obligatory in some of the City Companies.



The Rent-gatherer's account, representing the old "Temporal account," furnished the chief source of income to the Company, arising from property for the most part bequeathed by the wealthier brethren for the general good of the Craft. The office of Renter, as it was more generally called, was one of distinction and led up to the positions of Warden and Master. John Catour, who filled the post in 1442, received an annual fee of 13s. 4d., and still held office in 1456. In this year, for the first time, the rental portion of the accounts bears a separate heading as follows:—"Here followeth the charge of the Rentes perteynyng to the seid Craft accompted by John Catour Rent-gatherer from the fest of Easter the xxxiiij yere of the regne of kyng Henry the vj<sup>te</sup> vnto the same fest of Easter the xxxv<sup>th</sup> yere of the regne of the same kyng that is to sey by a hole yere." The Master's account ran from Trinity Eve, the day of election, whilst the Renter's was from Easter, to coincide with the Quarter days. A list of the early Renters is on p. 303.

The Rent-gatherer or Renter.

Importance of the office.

The number of apprentices in the Company may be roughly guessed from the record of six new admissions for this year, the large fee of 20s. being paid by the master in each case. This was evidently a severe tax, especially upon masters newly admitted to the Freedom. The arrears of payment of these fees (perhaps for two or more years) were for eighteen apprentices, six for the whole sum of 20s., and the rest for portions left unpaid. Among those paying by instalment are such prominent cutlers as John Dey, Thomas Pakeman, Thomas Otehill, John Amell, and Richard Asser.\* The fee for "entre" into the freedom (after apprenticeship) was 10s., and there was only one new freeman this year. It is difficult to estimate the number of members of the Company. The sum of 56s. was received as quarterage during the year, but there is no clear evidence as

Admission of apprentices and freemen.

Total membership.

\* The fee for binding an apprentice was reduced in 1449-50 to 6s. 8d., and so continued to the close of this series of accounts.

to the amount of the quarterage fee. Under the ordinances of the Fraternity in 1370 each of the brethren paid six pence quarterly, and under the Company's ordinances of 1488 the liverymen paid four pence and the freemen who kept shop two pence quarterly towards the cost of the trade Searches of the Company. This last assessment was the ordinary amount of the quarterage (*Court Min.* 1700, p. 327). From the list of payments of quarterage made both by the "brethren and sisters" and by the "yong men" of the Company (*see* pp. 371-2), the total membership may fairly be estimated at about two hundred, exclusive of apprentices. The entries of new freemen and apprentices are printed on pp. 354 *et seq.*

Very few of the minor Companies possessed halls at this time, and the Cutlers found willing tenants in the Fullers (who afterwards with the Shermen, became the Clothworkers) and the Blacksmiths, each Craft paying a yearly rent of 6s. 8*d.* The Company's Hall was well stored with necessities, and they were able to lend their pewter "vessell," probably to one or other of their tenant Crafts, receiving in payment a larger sum than for the use of the Hall. The pewter was kept clean by scouring at a cost of 2s. 4½*d.* for the year, and 2*d.* was paid for *changing* a "Saltsaler." The last entry is to be explained by a curious custom in the pewter trade. New pewter was never *bought*, but changed for old, the latter being melted and re-cast; the pewterer paid his customer at a fixed rate per lb. for the old pewter, and received for the new a higher price per lb., sufficient to cover the expense of the transaction. Other instances of exchange are in 1461-2, when 5s. 6*d.* was "paid for changing of 66 lb. of peauter vessell," and in 1467-8 when a further 6 lb. was changed at a cost of 4s. The pewter was not displayed on the walls of the kitchen, but kept in a chest for which a key was provided in 1468-9, costing 4*d.* Five almsmen appear in this account, two receiving 10*d.*, and two others 4*d.*

Hire of the  
Hall.

Pewter  
"vessell."

Almsmen.



a week, whilst the fifth had a gift of 13s. 4d. Three were invited to dine with the rest of the brethren at the charge of the Company, the other two being perhaps too infirm to attend. There appear to have been three regular festivities during the year ; Feasts. the Coney Feast (held soon after Christmas), a simple election repast, and the dinner following the election. At the " Cony-fest " the brethren paid their own charges, the Company providing " players " for some kind of interlude or revelry to follow. Election dinner. The election dinner being at Trinity was a summer feast, costing the Company 40s. besides the sum of 12d. for each of their guests, the brethren who attended paying each a like amount for themselves and their wives. The guests were two ecclesiastics, one from the Company's parish church of St. Michael Paternoster, and the other from the neighbouring church of St. Martin, where an obit was kept costing 13s. 4d. The yearly offering at Charterhouse cost 10s., and 18s. was paid Offering at Charterhouse. for the gift of a pair of latten candlesticks to that foundation. The Cutlers' connection with Whittington's College (which gave its name to College Hill) seems to have been that of near neighbours, and the payment of 16d. for the yearly quarterage of the Clerk of the College may mean the admission of that official as an honorary brother of the Company. Some cutlers were buried in the College,\* as, for instance, the almsman John Yerd, in 1474-5. (See p. 172.) Whittington's College.

The second, or Renter's, account contains the receipts and outgoings of the two estates then belonging to the Company. The Company's estates. At the time of this account the Walbrook estate comprised, besides the Hall, six adjoining tenements in the same street. Two of these, on the east side, were in the parish of St. John, Walbrook, and were occupied by skinners, Skinners' Hall being Walbrook. close adjoining in Dowgate Hill. The other four tenements were to the west of the Hall in the parish of St. Michael

\* These burials may have been in a burial ground for the College almsfolk, or in the parish church of St. Michael Paternoster which was made a College by Whittington's endowment.

Paternoster. Each house produced a rent of 20s. except that occupied by William Crompe, skinner, who paid only 13s. 4d. The Watling Street estate was more valuable, and consisted of six tenements in the parish of Allhallows, Bread Street, producing an average rent of nearly 3*l*. One of these tenants, Edward ffrensh, gave trouble to the Renter, who had to spend 9½*d*. "in expenses at Tavern vpon Counsell agenst" him, in recovery of arrears. The Renter's expenditure was almost entirely for repairs, for the Cutlers were good landlords. Very little was spent on the Hall this year, but the house of John Shether, the skinner, who like ffrensh was behind with his rent, required a new chimney and much other repair, the details of which are minutely set out in the account. The above is a brief summary of the particulars to be gleaned from the *earliest* (1441-2) of these fifteenth-century Accounts. Some idea of the condition and progress of the Company during the next fifty years may be gathered from the accounts which make up the rest of the series. It will be convenient to treat of these under the various subjects to which they refer.

Watling Street.

Repairs and arrears.

New powers obtained.

INTERNAL GOVERNMENT. The powers of the Company under their charter and ordinances were constantly in need of revision as new experience of their exercise was being gained. New regulations were made from time to time to deal with various points as they arose, those not covered by the provisions of ordinances previously granted being submitted to the Guildhall authorities for their approval. Thus, in 1449-50 there were four payments as follows:—"Paid for a copy of the bill of the rewle of the Craft, 8*d*." "Paid for a bill made unto the maire, 8*d*." "Paid for ij copies of ij billes, 2*d*." "Paid for the rolle of the rules of the craft, 4*s*." An appeal to higher authority was found necessary in 1450-1, when 20*d*. was paid "For ij Supplicacions & a bill made to the Maire ayenst Henry Otwey." The following items are found in the accounts of



1459-60 :—" Paid for writing in to the bokes of the othe & charge of seruantes alloweces\* of the seid Craft, 6*d*." " Paid for a supplicacion put to the Maire and Aldermen, 12*d*."

A new charter (though not recited in any later inspeximus) was apparently obtained from King Edward IV on his accession in 1461. To ward off the opposition of the City the Company pursued the plan, common enough at that time, of presenting gifts to high officials; the Recorder's services were professionally engaged, the Mayor himself was presented with cutlery, and his clerk rewarded with a handsome gift of money. " Paid to Maister Roger the Mayres Clerk, 3*s*. 4*d*." " Paid to the Recorder for ouerseying of the Charter, 6*s*. 8*d*." " Item paid for a pair of table knyves gifen to the Maire, 40*s*." The two following items appear in the same account :—" Paid for writing of a Copie of an article of a certeyn ordinaunce made within the said Craft of Cotillers, 4*d*." " Item paid for writing of another article in the Register of the said Craft of another ordinaunce that is to say that no persone of the said Craft shall atte eny hereaftir werke in his chambre nor in eny othir close or secrete place but for to werke openly by the streete side vpon a certayn payn, 4*d*." This last-mentioned order was afterwards embodied in the Company's Ordinances of 1485 (p. 340). The accounts of this busy year include a further payment of importance for the costs of a petition to Parliament to extend the powers of the Company :—" Item paid in dyuers expenses for suyng of certeyn matiers in the parlement for the wele and profite of the said Craft of Cotillers and in money gifen to dyuers persones for to shewe their gode willes and to be frendely and solicitours in the same matiers, 5*l*. 5*s*. 8*d*." In the next year, 1462-3, are payments for the services of a scrivener :—" Paid to a Scryvenar for writing of certeyn things in the boke of the said Craft, 4*d*." " Paid to a Scryvaner for writyng of the names of the apprentices

Charter of  
Edward IV.

Petition to  
Parliament.

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\* Allowes or journeymen. See note on p. 5.

Refractory  
craftsmen.

Cutlers'  
privileges  
sought by  
other Crafts.

Fees to  
Public  
Officials.

& seruaunt allowesses of the said Craft, 8*d*." The Company had this year some difficult dealings with one Hobard, who put them to the expense of 3*s*. 4*d*. for counsel's opinion besides smaller sums:—"Paid for makynge of a bill bitwene Hobard and the said Craft, 12*d*." "Paid in drynk spent vpon Hobard, 3*d*." "Paid to a man of Counsaill atte seynt Bartholomu spitall, 3*s*. 4*d*." There was more serious trouble in 1464-5 in the proceedings against William Overey which cost 7*s*. 5*d*., the sum being defrayed by a collection among the "yong men" or Yeomanry:—"Receyued of the yong men of the said Craft of Cotillers for the costs of William Overy, 7*s*. 5*d*." Some of the minor Companies were glad to avail themselves of the legislative and other privileges secured or enjoyed by the Cutlers, as the following entries show:—"Receyued of the pynners for the exemplification of the grete Charter, 10*s*." "Receyued of the Carde-makers for the same exemplification, 6*s*. 8*d*."

The Company was again busy in 1468-9, both in Parliament and with the Mayor, in obtaining due confirmation of the rights secured under their late charter, the services of the Recorder and of William Dunthorn, the Town Clerk, being procured by handsome fees:—"Paid to the Recorder of London and to the Clerk of the Parliament and to other oure Counsell for to examyn oure corporacion by the actus of the parliament, 15*s*." "Paid to the same Recorder for to be oure counsell for certeyn Matiers that we sued to the Maire, 10*s*." "Item paid to Maister William the Towne Clerk for his Counsell of the same matier, 5*s*." Other smaller payments appear in the three following entries:—"Item paid to the Clerk of Guyldhalle for writing of a supplicacion that was put to the Maire, 20*d*." "Item paid to Robert leget Screvenar for writing of a supplicacion to the Maire, 10*d*." "Item paid to the same Robert for drawing of the Note of the same supplicacion, 8*d*." A copy of the "Corporacion" was bought for the small sum of 4*d*.; this



was probably the charter granted by Edward IV to the Company. Some of its provisions may not have been acceptable to the City, or the help of the Mayor and Aldermen may have been found necessary to enforce its powers. At all events the Company again approached the Mayor in the following year, having first paved the way by the usual gift to the Town Clerk :—

“ Geven to Maister William the Towne Clerk for his labour to the Maire, 5s.” “ Paide to a yoman that warned the seid Maister and Wardeyns when the Maire held Court, 12d.” The following entry in the same year (1469-70) throws some light upon the constitution of the Craft, possibly under the provisions of King Edward IV’s charter. The *twelve persons* mentioned were probably the Master, two Wardens, and nine Assistants who had served the office of Master ; this may have formed the rudiments of the body known afterwards as the Court of Assistants :—“ Paid for bread and ale whiche was spent upon the xij persones of the Craft, 4s. 7½d.” In 1485 new Ordinances were granted to the Company by the Court of Aldermen (*see* pp. 337-341), and the Accounts for that year give the cost of engrossing the new rules in the Company’s records :—“ Paid for writyng of a rolle in parchemyn of diuers rulyes of the seid crafte whiche been enrolled in the yeldehall and entred in the Regestre of the same Crafte, 3s. 4d.” “ Paid for a skyn of parchemyn. 4d.” In the following year the “ rolle of the Crafte required “ mending,” 12d. being paid to Fox of “ Yeldehall ” for its repair, and a gilt dagger costing 2s. 4d. given him in reward. A further “ Supplycacion ” was made to the Mayor the same year (1486-7), probably in respect of their unauthorised rules (*see* pp. 341-343); after this the Company seems to have enjoyed its new powers undisturbed, and to have found themselves possessed of sufficient authority for another ten years. In 1496-7 trade difficulties arose with the Blacksmiths, as appears from the following entries. This Company having no Hall of

New Ordinances, 1485

Disputes with the Blacksmiths.

its own, had been tenants of the Cutlers, a relationship which ought to have avoided any misunderstanding. No particulars of the dispute are on record. "Paid for a bill oute of the Maires Courte to this Crafte, 4*d*." "Paid for makyng of a bill of answer to the Mayre agayn, 1*d*." "Paid for serchyng of the rewles of the blaksmhythes boks, 2*d*." In the last year of these accounts, 1498-9, another bill was made to the Mayor "for goers to fayres." This was a constant source of trouble to all Crafts alike; the craftsmen seeking to evade the "search" of their goods by the Company before setting out from London to attend the country fairs. A curious entry, two years earlier, may be connected perhaps with the seizure of defective ware at one of these searches. A modest fish dinner was held at a cost of 8*d*. "for saltfysse and ij grete playces (plaice) at the receyvynge of the stuf belongyng to the hall." Another entry in the year 1498-9 refers to an ancient book of ordinances, perhaps the "Register" above-mentioned, which unfortunately is not now preserved. "Paid for the setting in of dyuers nothes into the blac boke, 8*d*."

Evasion of  
"Searches."

During the period covered by these accounts the term of office for the Master and Wardens was two years. The Master was chosen from those who had served the office of Warden, but not, as in later years, by promoting the Senior Warden to the office of Master. The Wardens, during the same period, seem to have had equal authority and precedence, and (in several instances) served the office more than once. The Master also was often elected again; in fact, for the years 1442-1499 the names of only fourteen different Masters appear. (See pp. 244-245.)

Master's  
term of  
office.

The binding fee payable by freemen for the enrolment of their apprentices was reduced in 1449-50 (or perhaps earlier, for there is a gap in the accounts) from 20*s*. to 6*s*. 8*d*. It was now paid more regularly, whereas formerly this item in the accounts had been continually in arrear, the laxity being quite general

Arrears of  
binding fees.



from the Master downwards. There was a delinquent, however, in 1475-6 who owed fees for three apprentices and paid 14s. 2*d.* as follows:—"Receyued of John Mundes in party of payment of xxs. for the interesses (entries) of his apprentices, ffirst a brasse potte weying xliij lb iij quarters price the lb ijd. Item a charger vij platers iij dysshes a rownde potell potte of peauter weiyng all to geder xxxiiij lb price the lb ijd ob. Summa xiiijs. ijd."

OFFICIALS. At the beginning of these accounts, and for some thirty years after, the Beadle was the only paid official of the Company. He received 10s. each year "for his clothing," and 8*d.* for horse hire at the Mayor's Riding, with allowances for occasional services. He collected the assessed contributions of the members of the Company to grants made to the Crown, receiving 16*d.* in 1449-50 as collector for two half-fifteenths, and 2s. 8*d.* in 1453-4 "for the yeft" of 2,500*l.* to the King. A regular salary of 16s. 8*d.* was first paid to the beadle in 1458-9, John Otys then holding the office. He died shortly afterwards, when his wife became a pensioner and at her death was buried at the Company's expense. An entry (which, however, is struck through) in the account for 1468-9 shows her grateful regard for the Craft:—"Received of John Dey for a girdill whiche the wife of John Otys gave to the vse of the same Craft, 6s. 4*d.*" In 1461-2 John Cobbe, probably the new beadle, received 8s. "for labouryng of certayn things for the wele and profite of the said Craft." In 1465-6 John Archer was "bedell," and was succeeded on his death in 1468-9 by Richard Synger. Synger died in 1473-4, and was buried with much ceremony in Whittington's College at the charge of the Company, who also helped his widow with her rent and gave her a pension. The beadle was provided with apartments within the Hall, apparently rent free. (*See Tenants*, p. 326.)

The Beadle.

Occupants  
of the office.

CLERK. The first mention of a Clerk occurs in 1473-4, the year of Synger's death, and the entry contains the word "beadle"

The Clerk.

erased and "clerk" written over it. No mention is made of the beadle in the rest of the accounts to 1498-9, and it is clear that the Company continued to employ but one official, under a change of name. It is most probable that at this time, as was the case later, this officer (whether beadle or clerk) was a freeman of the Company and engaged in its trade. One of the tenements "within the place of the Craft" was assigned to the Clerk, who paid a rent of 10s. (*See* p. 326.) The first clerk, appointed in 1473-4, was John Aleyn, who received for his salary and livery gown, 40s. He died in 1483-4, the Fellowship having given him 23s. 2*d.* "in the tyme of his sikenesse" and paid 15s. for his funeral. Nicholas Asser, the next clerk, was provided with an official gown containing three yards of cloth and costing 15s. He was a member of the Craft, and in 1456-7 took over Thomas Hamond's shop on London Bridge at an increased rent of 40s. yearly. The last of these early clerks whose names are on record was John Bull (*see* p. 205) who paid 6s. 8*d.* "for the dette of his fader" John Bull in 1468-9. In 1489-90, one Emmot Asser, a relative of the late clerk, became a pensioner. The Ordinances of 1488 provide for payment of the Clerk's salary by contributions from the brethren. The yearly assessment was for a Master or Past-Master 20*d.*, for a Warden or Past-Warden 12*d.*, for every one of the Livery or Clothing 8*d.*, and for each of the Freemen or Yeomanry 4*d.*

Assessment  
for his  
salary.

Legal  
advisers.

Besides the Company's permanent officials, there were others whose services were engaged from time to time. This was the case, as we have seen, with the scrivener, and legal assistance was also frequently needed. It seems probable that Thomas Ive was the Company's regular legal adviser, as he was frequently invited to their feasts. In 1462-3 Ive "and his man" were guests at the Coney Feast, and later in the year "the wif of Thomas Ive and hir seruant & mayden" were also



entertained. The Company had this year much to do with the law, extending their hospitality to "Folyoll of the temple & his man," besides one Herbert, William Overey, and John Straunge, who were all probably lawyers. This legal activity may have been connected with their newly-granted charter, or perhaps with the case of Hobard above-mentioned. (*See* p. 154.) The fee paid for advice was a quarter of a mark or 3s. 4d., instead of the half mark or 6s. 8d. of the present day; whilst the "refresher" was more literally true, being supplied at a tavern. Thus, in 1450-1 there was "Paid to Wangford man of lawe, 3s. 4d.," and "In expenses vpon the seid Wangford, 4d." Three years later the accountants "Paid to Robert Heworth man of lawe for his labour in goyng to Seynt Mary Overyes, 20d." The expenses of an action in 1458-9 against John Hole for arrears of rent cost 7s. 6d., 3s. 4d. being "allowed and pardoned him." In 1464-5 "the writing of iij Reconysaunces in to the Registre" of the Mayor's Court cost 2s., and 2s. 4d. was paid to the "Maires Clerk" for their registration.

Counsels'  
fees and  
refreshers.

HALL. Where the Company fixed their headquarters after they vacated the House of the Cutlers opposite the Conduit in West Cheap does not appear. Their next Hall of which any record exists was in Horseshoe Bridge Street (now called Cloak Lane) in Vintry Ward, and here they were certainly settled early in the fifteenth century, although they did not become actual owners of the site until 1451. Nine years before then, as we learn from the early accounts, the Hall was let to the Fullers, Smiths, and other Crafts as sub-tenants, whilst the mention of repairs suggests that the building was by no means new. The occupation of this Hall may go back to the grant of the Company's first charter in 1416, or even earlier. The site was one of great interest, being close to the ancient City stream known as the Walbrook, the extreme western boundary of the earliest Roman settlement in London. Along its course the remains of

Horseshoe  
Bridge  
Street.

An interest-  
ing site.

beautiful villas have been found, and from its bed a matchless collection of relics of Roman London was recovered in 1873. Stow writes of the Walbrook as follows:—"Now from the North to the South this Citie was of olde time diuided not by a large high way or streete as from East to West, but by a faire Brooke of sweete water, which came from out the North fields, through the wall, and midst of the Citie, into the riuer of Thames, which diuision is till this day constantly and without change maintained. . . This is the course of Walbrooke, which was of old time bridged ouer in diuerse places, for passage of horses and men, as need required: but since, by meanes of encroachment on the banks thereof, the channel being greatly streightned, and other noyances done thereunto, at length the same by common consent was arched over with brick, and paued with stone, equall with the ground where through it passed, and is now in most places builded vpon, that no man may by the eye discerne it, and therefore the trace thereof is hardly knowne to the common people." (*Survey*, ed. Kingsford, i, p. 119.) In the following passage the same writer gives more exact particulars, from which it is clear that the stream was still open when the Cutlers first occupied their Hall in Horseshoe Bridge Street. "In the third of Henry the fift, this water course had many Bridges, since vaulted over with bricke. . . For order was taken in the second of Edward the Fourth (*Letter-Book L*, f. 11b) that such as had ground on either side of Walbrooke, should vault and paue it ouer so farre as his ground extended." (*Stow*, ed. Kingsford, v. 1, p. 27.)

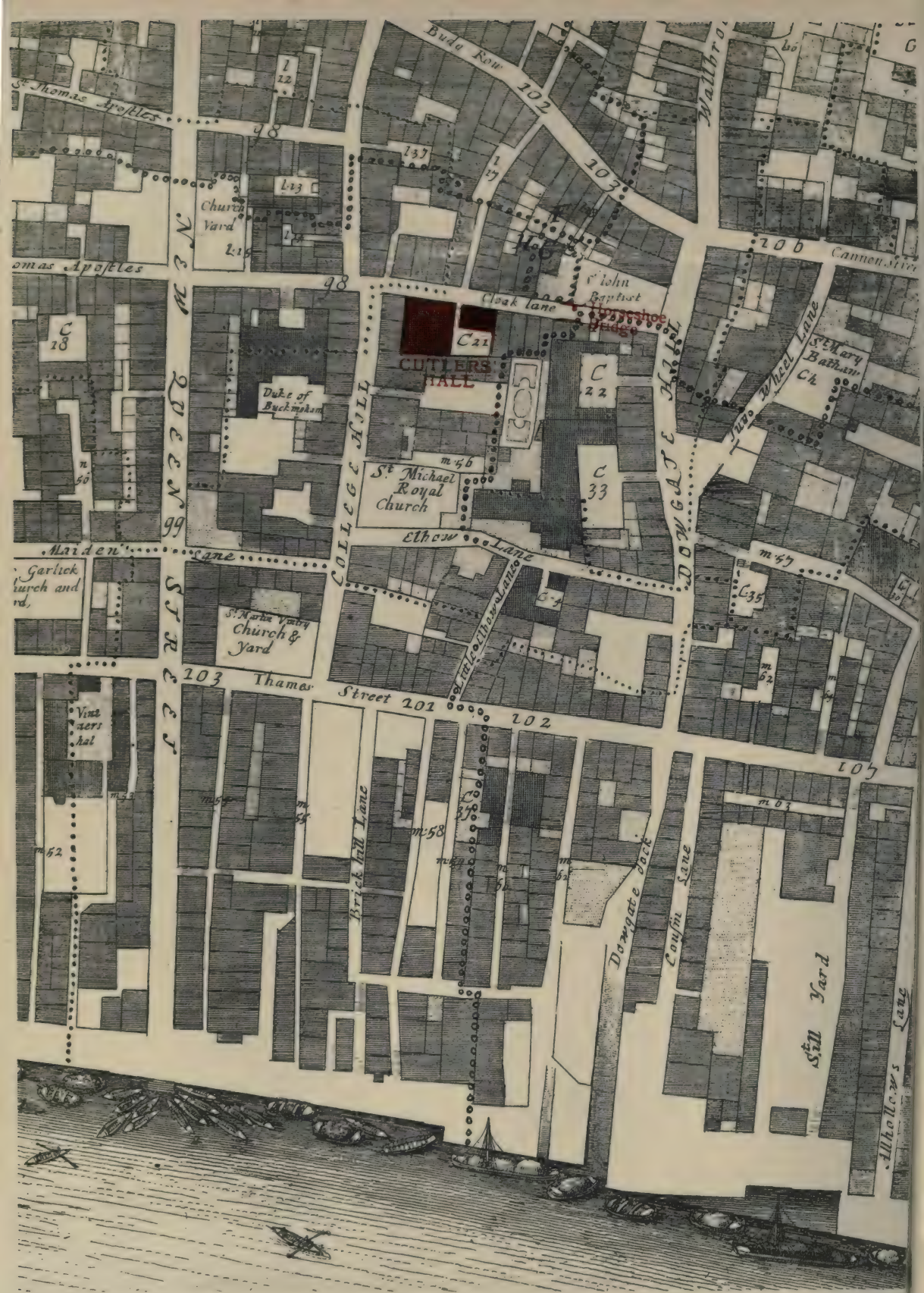
The  
Walbrook.

Its bridges.

Although at the close of Elizabeth's reign, when Stow wrote, the Walbrook had disappeared as a stream, it was in earlier times navigable by barges up to Bucklersbury, and was crossed by bridges, as stated above. For the repair of one of these bridges "near Bokerelesbere," certain merchants known as the Society or Company of Lucca were, in 1291, jointly liable







MAP SHOWING THE SITE OF OLD CUTLERS' HALL AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

From Ogilby and Morgans' Map of London, 1677



as tenants of a house in that locality. (*Letter-Book A*, f. 84b.) Lower down its course the stream was crossed by Horseshoe Bridge, just at the boundary of Vintry, Dowgate, and Walbrook wards. The stream also formed the boundary between the parishes of St. John Walbrook and St. Michael Paternoster Royal, the western end of St. John's church being "on the very bank of Walbroke." Horseshoe Bridge Street (now Cloak Lane) in which Cutlers' Hall stood, ran west from Dowgate Hill in the parish of St. John Walbrook to Horseshoe Bridge, and from thence in the parish of St. Michael Paternoster to College Hill. The Hall was on the south side of Horseshoe Bridge Street, and lay wholly in the parish of St. Michael and in Vintry ward (*see map*); the property included the almshouses with some adjoining tenements and certain other tenements which the Company sold as stated below. The whole premises originally formed one estate, according to Stow, who writes thus:—"In Horsebridge streete is the Cutlars Hall. Richard de Wilehale, 1295, confirmed to Paule Butelar this house and edifices, in the parish of S. Michael pater noster church, and S. Johns vpon Walbrooke, which sometime Lawrens Gisors, and his son Peter Gisors did possesse, and afterward Hugo de Hingham, and lyeth betweene the Tenement of the saide Richard towards the south, and the lane called Horseshew bridge towards the North, and betweene the waye called pater noster Church on the West, and the course of Walbrooke on the East, paying yearely one cloue of Gereflowers at Easter, and to the Prior and Couent of Saint Mary Ouery 6s. This house sometime belonged to Simon Dolesly, Grocer, Mayor 1359." (Stow, *Survey*, ed. Kingsford, i, 244-5.) Butelar's "house and edifices" reached perhaps to Dowgate Hill, as Stow says they were partly in the parish of St. John Walbrook, but the Cutlers' property does not appear to have extended eastward of the stream of the Walbrook at Horseshoe Bridge. (*See map opposite.*)

Horseshoe  
Bridge.

Former  
owners of  
site of Hall.

When  
acquired by  
the Cutlers.

The Cutlers' Company must have come into possession of the above property very early in the fifteenth century, for one William Malweyn skinner, by his will dated 31st July, 1420 (proved 1463), left to the church of St. John upon Walbrook certain rents in the parish of St. Michael "de Paternoster-chirche," which he had acquired from the Master and Commonalty of the Mistery of Cutlers. (*Husting Roll* 193, 13.) The terms "Master and Commonalty," omitting any mention of "Wardens," suggest that the sale may have taken place before the incorporation of the Mistery in 1416. Much later in the century the Cutlers sold other tenements in St. Michael's parish which the purchaser, John Bracy, chandler, left to his wife Agnes, by his will dated 10th June, 1467, and proved ten years later. (*Ibid.* 207, 13.) This and other property, including the Watling Street estate, would seem to have been held by trustees on behalf of the Company before they obtained the licence in mortmain under their first charter in 1416. Horseshoebridge Street was called Cloak Lane about the middle of the seventeenth century, for a lease granted by the Company on 10th August, 1652, to one Richard Evens and his wife, describes the property as "the Flower de Luce near the Hall in Cloak Lane als. Shoe-bridge Street." (*Court Min.* p. 387b.)

Property  
held by  
trustees.

St. Michael  
Paternoster  
Royal.

The Company's parish church of St. Michael was founded anew as a College by the famous Richard Whittington and his executors early in the fifteenth century, Whittington himself being buried in the church. An Almshouse or Hospital was attached for thirteen poor men, one of them to be tutor and to have 16d. the week, the other twelve 14d. the week for ever. College Hill (formerly the Riote) takes its name from Whittington's foundation, and the College being a very near neighbour of the Cutlers, its Master and other officials figure frequently in the early Accounts as guests of the Company. Another



distinguished neighbour was the Duke of Buckingham, whose mansion lay on the west side of College Hill.

A very useful help in reconstructing the appearance of the Hall and its various apartments may be obtained from the extracts from the Accounts printed on pp. 315-321. Adjoining the Hall were the Almshouse, Beadle's house, and other tenements belonging to the Company, which, with their picturesque gable ends, must have presented an imposing appearance. In 1458 the cost of paving the road in front of the Hall amounted to 13s. for 19½ "tese" (or toise),\* that is about 130 ft. This frontage probably comprised the whole of the Company's premises. The apartments and offices included the great Hall and chamber, a parlour and little parlour, counting-house, kitchen, and storehouse. To these were added at a later date a Yeomanry hall and other apartments; there was also a garden, with a well and vinery. The large hall must have been a handsome room with a "bay" (or oriel) recess and window, and a dais. On great occasions it was hung with arras and "steyned" (painted) cloths for which a high price was paid; the floor was tiled and strewn with rushes. In the high-pitched roof was a "candle-beam," which was mended and supplied with a new weight in 1443-4. The guests at the high table were seated on forms, chairs being unknown until much later times.†

For their greater comfort the guests at the high table were supplied with cushions and "bankers," which were purchased in 1485 at a cost of 4*l*. So much were these appreciated, that in 1494 a further supply was procured to the making of which Simon Newenton contributed 9s.; they were covered with red and white leather and stuffed with seven and a half stone of

Description  
of the Hall.

Frontage.

Great hall.

Seats for  
guests.

\* "Toise" is a pavior's measure, variously estimated at from 6 to 7½ feet. (Welch, *History of the Paviers' Company*, v. 1, pp. 5*n*., 11*n*.)

† The use of forms, for the Livery and general company, at dinners in the Hall continued to quite modern times; several long forms with stuffed horsehair seats still remain at Cutlers' Hall.

feathers which cost 11s. 8d. The good wives of the Cutlers were not behind with their gifts ; in 1470-1 the account notes " A table clothe of werkes for the high table of the gift of the wif of William Haydore." Two small bequests for the general use of the Craft, each of half a mark, were made respectively by Robert Dyer in 1480-1 and by Robert Boys in 1485-6. But the names of many other donors have been lost, for in 1492-3 there appears a charge of 4d. " for makyng of a roll of the names of the benefactors of oure Crafte." A striking ornament of the Hall was the " Angel," which seems to have been a representation of the Holy Trinity to Whom the Company was dedicated ; there were two figures of the Angel, one in the bay window, and the other suspended from the beam in the roof. In 1497 2d. was paid for mending the Angel's wing, and 13s. 4d. to a carver for making a new Angel, the cost of gilding being 20s. In the centre of the roof was a fomerell or lantern, to let out the smoke, the fire being placed in the middle of the room. Within the Hall, or in an adjoining vestibule, was a "table" containing the names of the brethren and sisters of the Company. The windows were glazed with quarrels which probably contained the arms of principal members of the Company. Besides the more expensive "hangings," the Hall was decorated with "holme" or holly and ivy at Christmas ; also with "bowes garlands and risshes," probably for the election feast in summer.

The  
" Angel."

Other deco-  
rations.

The Par-  
lours.

A "newe parlour," spoken of in 1465, was hung with steyned cloth, and was most likely used for the meetings of the Court ; it must have been a fine apartment, judging from the cost of its construction and decoration in the Accounts (pp. 317-8). The two parlours were doubtless used by the Master and Wardens for admitting freemen, binding apprentices, and for administrative details connected with Searches, etc., the smaller parlour being required for a waiting-room. The counting-house was walled with "elmynbord" and fitted with benches, its

Counting  
house.



windows were barred, as it contained the records of the Company, and doubtless its current cash. The rent-gatherer and clerk perhaps shared the counting-house between them. The "Chamber" seems to have led out from the Hall, and may have been appropriated to the sisters of the Company on feast-days. The kitchen was an important feature of the Hall and Kitchen. underwent considerable repairs in 1477, four masons and two labourers being employed for over ten days; 25 feet of paving stone (4s. 2½d.) and a load of bricks (2s. 6d.) were employed, and a great stone was bought for 15d., its carriage by water costing 5d.; four pounds of "coton candill" were bought for 4d. to enable the paviers to work at night. The kitchen was floored with free stone, well lighted, and fitted with ovens, cupboards and dressing boards; and the cellar was well stored with ale. A brief glance at the domestic economy of the Craft is obtained from the following four entries:—"1469-70, Paid to John Johnson Smyth, for makynge of a fire pan, 19s." "1473-4, Paid for CC and iij quartrons of rede wode price the C vjs. Summa 13s. 9d." "1486-7, Receyued of Edmond Mannyng for iiij olde potts and a chafyn of brasse to hym solde, 30s. 10d." "1496-7, Paid for viij quartrons colys (coals) ayenst michelmas, ijd." (This was presumably the "lowest summer price.") The Craft got into trouble with the sanitary authorities Disposal of refuse. of the City in 1452-3, when there was "Paid for a copy of the enditement of the donghill by the halle, jd." During the great alterations at the Hall in 1465-6 three loads of "Rubbys" were carried away, and a labourer was employed to "Cary oute the saide Rubbys in to the strete." If this means that the rubbish was shot in the street outside the Company's Hall, the indictment is not surprising. Another item records the spending of 7d. "for ale that was dronk whane the rubbes was Caryd outh and att the makynge clene of the hall." The garden Garden. (or rather gardens, for there was also a "litill gardeyn") was not large, but

Other Crafts  
as tenants.

afforded the Company both pleasure and profit. A gardener was occasionally employed, but the chief care of the garden was probably undertaken by the Beadle, with help perhaps from the almsmen. The vine and trees were pruned from time to time at a cost of 4*d.*; the garden "rayles" cost 3*d.* and the same sum was paid for a key to the garden gate; 6*d.* was paid in 1497-8 to a gardener for seven young vine plants, and 5*d.* for dressing both gardens. (See p. 321.) The Hall was still in request; in 1452-3 the Scriveners, and in 1456-7 the Glovers, were hirers of the Hall, the Fullers having now disappeared. The Smiths (Blacksmiths) continued, and with the Scriveners were tenants in 1464-5, paying each a reduced rent of 4*s.* yearly.

The Cutlers  
as land-  
lords.

PROPERTY AND REPAIRS. From the list of fifteenth century tenants on pp. 325-326 it will be seen that the Watling Street estate continued to attract good tenants. The tenements have, for the convenience of description, been denoted by letters. A and B were perhaps a dwelling house and a shop, as they were occupied by the same tenants, two of whom were mercers. The house kept up its rent of 4*l.*, but the rent of the shop was reduced in 1462-3 from 33*s.* 4*d.* to 26*s.* 8*d.* William Aldburgh, who then held both houses, took a lease in 1465-6, and may have got a reduced rent in consequence; "atte the selyng of the endentures" of this lease, 4*d.* was spent on wine.

Troublesome  
tenants.

Tenement C also had well-to-do tenants, the rent being raised in 1492-3 from four to seven marks. For tenement D, after the eviction of Edward Frensh, who gave continual trouble with his rent, the Craft had for a time a succession of substantial tenants. The cost of engrossing Stevenson's lease of this house in 1458-9 was 8*d.* A succeeding tenant, Henry Davy, tailor, gave much trouble in 1489-90. After a tenancy on lease of sixteen years, he got six weeks behind in his rent and the Master and Wardens "bought owte the yeres" of his lease, with the



aid of John Flye who was entertained at the King's Head in Bridge Street and otherwise well treated ; the particulars appear on p. 324. The rent of tenement E (40s.) was doubled in 1496-7, and that of tenement F was reduced in 1489-90 from 33s. 4d. to 26s. 8d.

In the estate adjoining the Hall, the four houses in St. Michael Paternoster parish continued to let at 20s. a year, A and B being latterly held by a single tenant. Margaret Richard's tenancy of tenement B in 1449-50 did not last a year, and eleven years later the Master and Wardens sold for 12*d.* "two olde chestes" which were "taken for a distresse for partie of payment of hir housrent." The houses on the East side of the Hall, in the parish of St. John Walbrook, were of less value. Crompe's house (tenement A) was reduced in rent from 13s. 4*d.* to 10s. and in 1484-5 became the Clerk's house. Tenement B also had its rent reduced in 1456-7 from 20s. to 16s. Another house "next the Hall" (tenement D) was built in 1449-50 and let at 20s., the rent being reduced ten years later to 16s. Within the Hall itself were two chambers (C) tenanted by John Stampet in 1449-50 at a rent of 8s., and afterwards let to the wife of Archer the beadle.

Houses adjoining the Hall.

The repairs to the Company's property, as seen in the extracts from the Accounts on pp. 322-323, involved considerable outlay, especially those to Rankyn's house in 1449-50 and 1458-9. There were also various quit-rents payable at Guildhall, the Hospital of St. Giles, and elsewhere. The garden at the back of the Hall was charged with a small payment to the "Lady of Clerkenwell," the head of the Benedictine Nunnery which gave its name to Clerkenwell Close. A curious provision is found in a lease of one of the Company's houses in Horseshoe Bridge Street. The lease is dated 14th May, 5 Edward IV (1465), and prohibits the tenant from using the trades of a smith, cook, or shearman.

Repairs and other charges.

Obit at St.  
Martin  
Vintry.

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES.** At the time of the first extant account (1442-3) there was a yearly obit "holden at Seynt Martyns" at a cost of 13s. 4*d*. How long it had been performed does not appear, but the beneficiaries were the brethren and sisters of the Craft; much importance was attached to it by the Company, who invited the "Clerk of Seynt Martyns" to their dinner. The church meant was doubtless St. Martin Vintry, which was not rebuilt after the Great Fire, being united with St. Michael Paternoster Royal. The site of the church was on the north side of Thames Street, at the west corner of the lane anciently known as "la Rirole," now College Hill. St. Martin's parish lay due south of that of St. Michael (in which was Cutlers' Hall), and extended down to the river. The record of this obit disappears from the Accounts in 1449-50, and in its place is the following entry of an obit at Whittington's College (the church of St. Michael Paternoster):—"Expenses upon the obit holden at the said College for the brethren and sistren of the said Craft, xiijs.iii*jd*." It may be that the Cutlers were settled in the parish of St. Martin Vintry before their Hall in Horseshoe Bridge Street was acquired, and that they afterwards (in 1449-50) removed the annual obit to the church of their new parish. New names were added from time to time to the bede-roll of brethren and sisters for whom (both living and deceased) prayers were to be offered. Thus in 1476-7 two pence were "paid for writyng of a bill of the names of the Craft which were rehersed at the College." At the same time the religious services at Charterhouse prescribed by the Ordinances of the Fraternity in 1370 (pp. 249-254) were duly attended, and the expenses formed part of the Craft's regular outlay. Whether the Fraternity still existed at this period, either separate from the Craft or at all, is not clear; but there was no slackening in the religious devotion of the Cutlers. (*See* p. 327.) A costly pair of latten candlesticks was given to the Charterhouse Community in 1442-3,

Transferred  
to Whit-  
tington's  
College.

Bede-roll of  
brethren  
and sisters.

Gifts to the  
Charter-  
house.



and the "table" of the names of the brethren and sisters was renewed from time to time. The "offeryng" in 1471-2 was on Trinity Sunday, the election time, and four pence were "paid for redyng of your evydences whan ye cam from Charterhous." Mention has already been made of payments by the Cutlers of obits and costly burial expenses for their poor members and almsfolk; other instances will be found on p. 327.

ALMS. Abundant evidence is furnished in the accounts of the generosity of the Cutlers to the less fortunate members of their craft. A typical instance of the various channels in which their charity flowed is afforded by the case of one of their almsmen, Thomas Hamond. He filled the office of Warden in 1444-5, and was a prosperous cutler on London Bridge, where he leased a shop from the Bridge Masters at an annual rent of 23s. 4d. He seems to have got into difficulties with the rent of his premises in 1450-1, when the Company came to his aid:—"Paid for a Relesse made by Thomas Hamond & for serching of dedes & in other expenses at dyuers tymes, 5s. 10d." Having lost his business and fallen into debt, he became an almsman and gave up the lease of his shop in 1456-7, when the Company not only paid 46s. 8d. for his rent then two years in arrear, but 16s. 8d. also "for the rent of the hous that the same Thomas now dwellith in." The remaining term of the lease was taken over by the Company, who let the house to Nicholas Asser (afterwards Clerk) at the increased rent of 40s. (See p. 323.) Another expense, besides his weekly dole of 10d., incurred on Hamond's behalf at this time was 8s. 8d. for wood and coal. He died in 1461-2 and the costs of winding-sheet, "pitte and knylle," of torches, tapers, and torchbearers, and of the saying of *dirige* and masses, were all defrayed by the Company. It seems that his widow Joan enjoyed a pension soon after (if not before) his death, and this was continued until 1475-6, when a sum of 9s. 6d. was expended on wax torches at her

A typical  
almsman.

His rent paid.

Wife and  
daughter  
pensioned.

burial ; a weekly pension of 8*d.* was then given to her daughter Marion. Another kindly custom of the Company was to pay for the partaking of their almsmen and their wives in public feasts. Thus we find in 1456 Hamond and five other pensioners were guests of the Company at their Christmas feast, and five years later Joan Hamond was similarly invited.

Amount of  
pensions.

The pensions of the fifteenth century were of varying amounts, 4*d.*, 6*d.*, and 10*d.* per week being very usual grants, though there are one or two cases where only 2*d.* was given, whilst one fortunate almsman received 1*s.* In 1442-3 there were three men and one woman in receipt of pensions, and this number seems to have been generally maintained throughout the century. Now and again names found in other records appear amongst them. Richard Batell's wife, a pensioner buried at the Company's expense in 1469-70, was perhaps the widow of a cutler of whom only a single mention survives. (*See* p. 191.) Better known is the surname of Agnes Otehill, another pensioner, whose funeral expenses about five years later included 6*s.* for the hire and waste of two tapers and four torches. She must have been some connection of Thomas Otehill, a very prominent member of the Craft, possibly his widow, though in that case she must have fallen into poverty very soon after her husband's death. (*See* p. 192.) A more certain case of decayed circumstances is that of John Amell's sister, presumably the Margaret Holwey mentioned in his will (*see* p. 195), who was a pensioner in 1474-5 notwithstanding the handsome provision her brother had made for her a few years before. From time to time the slender incomes of the Company's almsfolk were supplemented by other gifts. In 1453-4, for example, an entry records the outlay of 7*s.* on the purchase of "a gown cloth" for Thomas Warner, and of 2*s.* 7½*d.* spent on frieze for its lining. The same Thomas had received 13*s.* 4*d.* in 1442-3, and appears as a pensioner some years later. In 1456-7 the

Other gifts  
to almsfolk.



sum of 22*d.* was paid to a woman "for the keypyng of Thomas Joye," and an alms of 6*s.* 8*d.* was granted to Richard Howes, probably the cutler of that name who is mentioned in 1453. (See p. 191.)

There is no evidence to show the situation of the house which Thomas Hamond occupied in 1456, but an entry in the Accounts seven years earlier proves that the Cutlers had already adopted the custom of the London Guilds of building homes for their almsfolk adjoining their Hall. In 1449 a carpenter working three days on "a Gable ende of the almshouse" received 2*s.* 0½*d.* for his labour. An entry of 1458-9 recording the expenditure of 16*s.* 5½*d.* on the repair of the almshouse, of which one item was a key for "Hamondes chambre durre," points to the conclusion that Thomas spent his last days in the Company's own almshouse. For various reasons it was desirable that the abode of the bedesmen should be under the shadow of the Hall in Horseshoe Bridge Street. It was their duty to be present at feasts and funerals alike, and in all corporate attendances at Divine worship the brethren met at the Hall, and the procession was preceded by the almsmen. For the sake of order and discipline, too, it was well to keep the almsfolk under the Company's eye. It is probable, however, that both at this date and later the almshouse did not provide accommodation for all the pensioners, since in 1469-70 the Company paid half a year's rent for one of them, a certain John Hosier. A payment of 2*s.* 2*d.* for work on "the Almes folks Chambers" is entered in 1498-9.

Almshouse  
adjoining  
Hall.

Bedesmen  
attended pro-  
cessions, etc.

Some very interesting entries in the Accounts are concerned with the death of the almsfolk of the Craft. As in the case of Thomas Hamond mentioned above, the chief sources of outlay are connected with the actual burial, funeral lights, and the services of the Church. The cost of the first and third items were small in comparison with the expenditure on the making and

Costly burial  
of almsfolk.

waste of tapers and torches and on the hire of their bearers. A winding-sheet cost from 10*d.* to 1*s.*, and 14*d.* or 18*d.* paid for knell as well as grave. On the other hand we find 3*s.* 10½*d.* expended on the material and making of four torches weighing 46½ lbs., 15*d.* on the waste of the same, and 15*s.* in all on two other tapers of less weight, used at the burial of Thomas Hamond. In 1468-9, 9*s.* 6*d.* was "paid for light for the buriyng of (John) Bullys wif." Again, on the death of John Yerd in 1474-5, 6*s.* were paid to the waxchandler for the hire and waste of two tapers and four torches. His funeral was conducted by the Master, priests, and clerks of Whittington's College, to whom and the four torchbearers a sum of 6*s.* 8*d.* was paid, which included the cost of *dirige* and requiem mass, knell, and grave-digging. In one case, the burial in 1467-8 of the wife of John Otys, ale is one of the items of expenditure, costing with *dirige*, pit and knell, 2*s.* 9*d.* Seven priests and clerks and two children performed the obsequies of Emmot Howes in 1476-7 at the moderate charge of 2*s.* 6*d.*, which, with 16*d.* for the knell, 8*d.* for grave-digging, 16*d.* to the torchbearers, and 2*d.* to the ringers, made up only 6*s.*, in contrast to the sum of 9*s.* 6*d.* then laid out on wax torches. In 1456-7 the Company paid for an obit for John Scott, and in 1459-60 the sum of 9*s.* 8*d.* was expended for the same purpose on behalf of Margery Westowe, the widow perhaps of John Westowe. (See p. 188.) The Cutlers had no pall or hearse-cloth, but hired "a clothe of golde" in 1486-7 for the burial of John Balle.

Dealings  
with aliens.

TRADE OFFENCES. The earliest instance of punishment for trade offences is in the account for 1456-7, when the Master and Wardens debit themselves with "Receites of ffynes for Alianez ware," the culprits and their fines being as follows:—Wyll Getter 12*d.*, John Amel 12*d.*, Thomas Pakeman 12*d.*, Thomas Pope 12*d.*, Richard Hollys 2*s.*, John Munde 12*d.*, William Swome 12*d.*, John Alyn 12*d.*, and William Grey 12*d.*



The offence seems to have been the very common one of buying and selling with "aliens" or "foreigners." Some of the offenders very probably got into this trouble through the acts of their servants, as it is hard to believe that such respected rulers of the Craft as Amell and Pakeman would willingly have transgressed the ordinances which they had assisted in framing. For more serious offences the assistance of the Chamberlain was sought, and as a last resort the offender was summoned before the Mayor and Aldermen. The services of the Mayor's officer or serjeant were constantly required. He attended the Master and Wardens in their "Searches" for defective ware; in 1461-2 a fee of 12*d.* was "Paid to a Sergeaunt for his labour to serche atte seynt Barthilmewes faire." He was also retained by an annual fee or *douceur*, to summon offenders to Guildhall or to take them to prison. In 1462-3 are the two following entries:— "Paid to an officer for to somon Thomas Ram ij tymes to appere afore the Chamberleyn, 8*d.*" "Paid to an officer for to somon the Pynner ij tymes to come afore the Chamberleyn, 8*d.*" One Langley gave the Company much trouble in 1465-6, 20*d.* was paid to Vail the serjeant for three summonses against him, and West, another serjeant, received 12*d.* for bringing him to the compter. His conviction was regarded as an important matter, for 8*d.* was paid for "a Cotype of the Juggement that was yoven to langley afore the Maire and the Aldermen," whilst the Recorder received 6*s.* 8*d.* "for langleyes matier," and 8*s.* 4*d.* for the "Juggement." There were still further charges of 3*s.* 4*d.* "paid to Maister William the Maires Clerk," and 4*d.* "paid in wyne yoven to the Maires son and to the Warden of the Craft." The following entry in 1468-9 seems to show that an offender had to pay the cost of his own arrest:—"Receyued of Nicholas Hill for a sergeaunts fee by hym due 12*d.*" The powers obtained by the Company in their ordinances proved to be no dead letter, but were exercised with unsparing watchfulness and impartiality.

Offenders  
summoned  
to Guildhall.

Ordinances  
enforced.

Control of  
apprentices  
and journey-  
men.

In 1470-1 Thomas Bromeyerd was fined 3s. 4d. "for tysyng of Robert Barton oute of his masters seruyce." In the same year three other offenders were summoned before the Chamberlain at a cost of 20d., obliging the Master and his colleagues to meet twice at a tavern, at a further cost of 9½d. The journeymen and apprentices gave less trouble, and complaints made against them by their masters were, as a rule, dealt with by the Company without any assistance from Guildhall. In 1489-90 John Wodecok was fined 8d., Robert Aleyn 3s. 4d., and Thomas Laveman 2s. 4d., for living out of their masters' houses. The fine for this offence by a journeyman was (under the Ordinances of 1488) a week's wages. (*See* p. 342.) Two other instances may be quoted to show the strict use exercised by the Company of their powers for regulating the trade. In 1489-90 John Pomfrete was fined 20d. "for workyng oon a Saterdag after iij a Clok atte afternone," and Henry Laurence paid the larger fine of 6s. 8d. "for workyng oute of the Citee of london."

Sale of Ivory.

**PRICES OF CUTLERY.** The Accounts for the first nine years of Edward IV's reign give much interesting information about the price of ivory, which was largely used for the better class of cutlery ware. At this period the Company bought ivory in large quantities and sold it to their craftsmen according to their requirements. The list of purchasers probably includes the wealthier members of the craft, who are also further distinguished by the extent of their purchases. The best ivory sold at 1s. a pound, and "scravell," of inferior quality, at 6d. or 8d. A whole tooth, weighing a little over 50 lbs., sold for 8d. the lb. A cutler of Thaxted, an Essex town where cutlery had long flourished, was allowed to buy 3½ lbs. in 1462-3, but at the higher rate of 14d. per lb. The largest purchaser was Agneys Brown, probably the widow of William Brown, Master in 1442-3; she must have been a woman of much energy to carry on so great a business, and appears earlier as a notable figure

Prices and  
purchasers.



in the Company. (*See* p. 178.) A list of the ivory sales with the purchasers, amounts, and payments, will be found on pp. 327-328. The following entries seem to show that purchases of wood for knife-handles were made by the Craft for sale to the members :—" 1477-8, Receyvid of the sale of iij cloggis of rede dogeon, 3*d*." " 1478-9, Receyued of William Bromfeld for C of Rede Dogeon, 5*s*." Digeon (probably boxwood) was exempted from the prohibition in the Ordinances of 1379-80 against colouring wooden handles of knives. (*See* p. 261.) As regards the finished article, the knife of commerce, no information as to price can be gathered from the early accounts. There are many particulars, however, of knives more or less costly presented by the Company to persons of distinction or to persons who had rendered them service. Some of these gifts have been mentioned already, and other instances will be found on p. 328. The gifts consisted almost exclusively of pairs of knives varying in value from 8*d*. for a pair given to the wife of the Steward of Clerkenwell, to 6*os*. paid for a pair given to the Mayor in 1468-9.

Sale of wood.

Gift knives.

**FEASTS.** The accustomed festivities described in the first account reappear with additional details in the accounts for the following years. The Coney Feast or Supper, known later as the Christmas Feast, was the great winter festival attended by the brethren and their wives, the sisters or freewomen, the almsfolk (at the Company's expense), and various guests, a few of whom seem to have had something approaching to a standing invitation. Among the latter were the Master and Robert the Clerk, of Whittington's College, Mistress Ellen Langwith, and " Maister William," the Town Clerk, who was sometimes represented in his absence by his wife and " hir man and mayde." Maister William is better known as William Dunthorn, whose compendium of civic lore, called " Liber Dunthorn," is still preserved in the archives at Guildhall. The Coney Feast was

Coney Feast.

Guests.

doubtless a festive gathering of great antiquity, there was no stint of outlay, and the Hall was bedecked with the old Christmas decoration of "holm" (the evergreen known as holm-oak or holm-holly) and ivy. The repast at the election on Trinity Eve was extremely modest, the bread and wine provided in 1442-3 costing only 17*d.*; it was often varied by the substitution of "bonbrede" and "bonnys" (buns). The Election Feast was held later, sometimes on the "sonday next after Trinite sonday." At this time-honoured Midsummer dinner the Hall was made gay with "bowes and garlonds," and the Craft's hospitality abounded. Besides the Master and Clerk of Whittington's College, two priests and the parish clerk were invited in 1480-1. Some important guests were asked to bring their wives and other relatives, and were attended by their servants. Among the guests were in 1480-1 "Maister Hert his wyf and his man," in 1486-7 Fox (of the Guildhall) and his wife, and in 1489-90 "the good wyf that gave a Towayll to the seid Crafte and her neybour." In the same year were entertained "Machyn and his wyf," and "John Fly and his wyf," and in 1492-3 "Mr. Chamberlain and his Clerk, Mr. Rede, Mr. Harte his wyfe and his doughter, John Byrall and his wyfe, and Johan (Joan) Toker." The Cutlers' hospitality did not stop here, but tasty dishes and sometimes a whole service were sent to the homes of guests who could not attend the banquet. Three such courteous attentions were made to John Amell (a great benefactor) in 1473-4:—"For a hole messe of mete sente to John Amyll home to his hows atte Cony feest after Cristmas, 8*d.*" "Paid for a pekerell sent to John Amell and for brede and ale, 2*s.* 3*d.*" "Paid for a Gurnard and a chyne of fresshe samon and for brede and wyne for the same John Amell atte another tyme, 2*s.* 7½*d.*" One of the guests, a lady who must have deserved well of the Company, was also thus honoured. 1476-7, "Paid for a Cony and a henne which was sent to Elyn langwith, 8*d.*" 1479-80,

Election  
Feast.

Dishes sent  
to absent  
guests.



"For a hole service for maistres langwyth at the cony feste, 16*d*."\* Another annual festive gathering, but of slight importance at this period, was the repast served to the members of the Company who attended the Mayor on his passage to Westminster on 29th October. In 1465-6 this refreshment cost only the modest sum of 2*s*. 6*d*., but in 1486-7 there was "Paid for brede ale and vitaille for the dyner of the felisship of the crafte atte the hall atte the goyng of the Maire to Westmynstre, 10*s*. 1½*d*." Two items in the account for 1470-1:—"Paid for a brekefast made in the halle, 8*d*." and "Paid the same day atte soper in the halle, 6*d*." point to an all day sitting of the Master and Wardens on some important business. As we have already seen, the Company was well supplied with pewter, and other kitchen necessities were supplied from time to time. In 1477-8 the cost of "iiij doseyne of newe Jely dysshis and for changyng of ij dosseyn disshis" was 20*s*., and in 1497-8 five dozen jelly-dishes were scoured at a charge of one penny a dozen. The guests were provided with wooden trenchers, "long trenchers" costing 2*d*., and "other trenchers" from 1*d*. to 1½*d*. the dozen. The chief apartments of the Hall were hung with arras at the Company's greater festivities, as shown by the three following entries in the account for 1489-90:—"Paid for hangyng vp of the Clothes of Arasse atte Cristmas, 2*d*." "Paid for takyng downe of the seid Clothe of Arasse at Witsontyde, 2*d*." "Paid for hangyng vp of the same Clothes of Arasse atte the feest holden the sonday nexte after Trynytee sonday, 2*d*." The services of players were engaged at the Coney Feast, and probably at the summer banquet also; in 1492-3 the players received 7*s*., and a "messe of mete," costing 16*d*. In 1497-8 the charge is "for a play," clearly a dramatic performance.

Mayor's Day Feast.

Pewter service.

Arras hangings.

The players.

\* See also pp. 175, 328. This lady was the widow of John Langwith, tailor. By her will of 1467 (proved 1483-4) she left property in Candlewick Street to the Merchant Taylors' Company, and (in their default of trust) to the Company of Cutlers. (*Husting Roll* 213, 30.)

Gifts of  
plate.

PLATE. The early accounts give many interesting particulars of the plate possessed by the Company. It was not the custom then for the brethren to make gifts of silver on being admitted to the freedom, or after serving office as Warden or Master, or as a fine for being discharged from serving office. In later times the plate thus given was known as "spoon-silver," and formed a collection of considerable value. Most of the pieces in the following entries came to the Company by bequest, but none of them have unfortunately remained to the present day ; many valuable pieces were sacrificed, quite down to modern times, to the unfortunate passion for exchanging old for new. The first recorded gift of plate was in 1453-4, when 5s. 2d. was " Paid for the dyner of Brownes wyf whan she brought in the cup vnto the craft & for an acquytance." This cup was the bequest of William Brown, Master in 1442-3. In 1461-2 the " saltsalers " needed repair, 15d. being paid for " pounsing " (piercing or ornamenting with dots), and 4d. for a " vise " (? a twisted stem). A more valuable piece, presented probably by a wealthy brother or friend of the Craft, was under repair in 1467-8. " For makying of a coueryng to a cuppe and for amelyng gravyng and setting in of a name in the same Cupp, 9s. 2d." In the same year occurs the following curious entry of which there appears to be no obvious explanation :—" Receyued for an vnce and an half of brook (? broken) siluer of iij peny weight, 4s. 9d." In 1468-9 the accountants charge themselves with the receipt of a mazer weighing 4½ oz. troy and six silver spoons weighing 4 oz. 4 dwt. " of the bequest of Johan Bulle," " gyfen by the forsaid wif of the said John Bulle." The spoons were somewhat worn, and 2s. 5d. was spent on " makying newe," and for silver " to fulfill the weight." In the previous year's account is the entry " Receyued of the dette of Bullys wyf, 16s. 8d." The plate and other goods of the Craft were kept by the Master and Wardens, who handed them over each

William  
Brown's cup.

Joan Bull's  
mazer.



year to their successors, an indenture being executed by the latter for their safe custody. Thus in 1469-70 there was "Paid for writyng of a peire of indentures of the goodes and Juelx perteynyng to the said Craft, 16*d*." In 1471-2, two years before his death, John Amell, Master in 1459 and 1460, gave "a stondyng maser with a foot and a bounde (band) of siluer and ouer gilt and with a Coueryng thereto garnessed with siluer and ouergilt," weighing 33 $\frac{3}{4}$  oz. The gift was much prized, for the same account records the payment of 5*s*. "for makying of a prynte of siluer and ouergilt with the names of John Amell and his wif whiche prynte is sette within the coueryng belonging to the standing maser whiche the said John Amill hathe youen to the said Craft." This fine piece of plate must have been well used, for in 1479-80, 6*d*. was "paid for the amending of John Amells maser." Other repairs include "the gildyng of an olde maser" at a cost of 5*s*. (1474-5), 4*d*. paid in 1475-6 "for the amending of an egle of the coueryng of a standing cuppe," and 6*d*. paid in 1476-7 "for mending of the knop of a salt saler." The "knop" is the boss on the stem of the saltcellar. Two spoons "weyng ij vncs" were bequeathed by John Robert in 1472-3. From the account for 1475-6 it appears that one Felix Janvey was bound in the sum of 55*s*. for a debt of Robert Wright, and also himself owed the Company a fine of 6*s*. 8*d*. For this he gave "in parti of payment" a maser "weiyng v vncs. price the vnce iijs. iiij*d*." This entry is of much interest as giving the goldsmith's price for a maser.

John Amell's  
maser.

Cost of a  
maser.

**PUBLIC SERVICE.** The early accounts of the Company contain only scanty references to its corporate share in the public burdens of City and State. A payment of 2*s*. 2*d*. made to the Beadle in 1465-6 "for to quyte (acquit) out the pleggs (pledges) that were streyned (distraigned) for the kynggs money," is perhaps to be connected with the City loan to the King in 1462, or with

Loans and  
taxes.

Civic  
charges.


Wardmote  
Inquest.

some similar but later advance. In 1468-9, 6*d.* was paid "for the Halle" to the collectors of Edward IV. Twenty years later the collectors of Henry VII received 5*s.* 11½*d.* "for the lyvelode (property) belongyng to the seid Crafte sette nexte the Hall," and 15*s.* 10½*d.* for the more valuable Watling Street estate. The City assessments include a charge of 12*d.* in 1473-4 and the next two years for making the Conduit, and 2*s.* paid for the Hall "to the Comyn donge hyll." The Beadle of the Ward received the annual gift of 4*d.*, and the Raker (later known as Scavenger) was paid 8*d.* yearly. In 1450-1, 5*s.* 8*d.* was paid "to Maister Roger the Maires Clerk for entryng of the iugement," and 3*s.* was paid "for iij paires of knyves geven to iij Clerkes of the Maires." A curious entry in 1489-90 records the payment of 4*d.* "for a rewarde to the Warmout quest" (Wardmote Inquest). This may have been occasioned by negligence of the Company's servants in not sweeping the street frontage of the Hall, but the "rewarde" appears to have failed in its effect:—"Paid for a fyne to the Chamber of London for swepyng of the Canell (channel) before the Hall dore of the seid Crafte, 2*s.*"



## CHAPTER V.

NOTICES OF LONDON CUTLERS OF THE FIFTEENTH AND THE  
GREATER PART OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURIES.

 HIS chapter forms a continuation of the biographical notices contained in Chapter II, and carries on the history of the Company on the personal side to about the year 1584, when the regular series of the Company's records begins.

A member of the Craft of some substance and importance, James  
Cokkes. James Cokkes, was one of six citizens appointed in 1402 to make a true return in an inquiry at the Tower of London into the alleged mismanagement of the City prisons, instituted at the complaint of John Cavendish. (*See* p. 106.) In a subsidy of 2nd January, 13 Henry IV (1411-12), he appears in a list of citizens possessed of 20*l.* a year and was assessed at 54*s.* (*Lay Subs.* 144, 20.) He had been one of the pledges of William Hegge on his prosecution for burglary in or near the Cutlery in April, 1406. Peter Coteler and other cutlers were concerned in this case, and the property stolen included twelve baselards and twelve pairs of small knives. (*Letter-Book F*, p. 275; *Memorials*, pp. 562-3.)

Amongst other members of the Craft, known only by their wills, which belong to the first fifteen years of this century are the bladesmiths John Stannard and John Marham, both parishioners of St. Bride, Fleet Street, Robert Lambe, bladesmith, and William Randolph, cutler. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 1, ff. 169*d*, 170*d*, 188*d*, 196*d*, 265, 328*d*.) John John  
Marham. Marham, by his will dated 16th October, 1407, left to his servant, John Percival, a complete forge (herth), an anvil (anfeld), with hammers, tongs (forcipibus), bellows, and all necessities to the

Robert  
Lambe.

said forge belonging; and likewise a great mill with a horse and all the furniture belonging to the said mill, and the tool for "holwe" hollow ware. Some interesting bequests were also made by Robert Lambe:—"to my servant Robert Hurrotte," my violet gown picked out *cum comculis* (? *conchulis*, little shells), with one hood of the last clothing of my craft; to Roger my kinsman all the requisites and implements being in my shop and belonging to my craft except those reserved to me and my executors, with one cupboard (*almar'*), one chest (*cista*), with tongs and two casks (*cad'*) with steel in the same shop.

John  
Denyngton.

Of two sheathers and one bladesmith, in the early years of this century, nothing seems to be recorded but the date of their discharge from service on juries and other public duties on the ground of old age. These were John Audree or Andree and Henry Richmond, sheathers, and Adam Ramme, bladesmith, who obtained this release, John in 1409, Adam in February, 1411-12, and Henry in February, 1413-14. (*Letter-Book I*, pp. 74, 99, 102.) John Denyngton, cutler, one of their contemporaries, was assessed at 4*l.* 5*s.* in January, 1411-12, amongst citizens whose yearly income was 20*l.* or more. (*Lay Subsidy* 144, 20.) Another sheather, Richard Ewayn, is known to us only through a single fact in his life. This was the robbery of his wife by William Spicer of Gravesend, "boteman," who stole from her, on 9th December, 1415, goods which included a gown of green woollen cloth furred with "popyll." (*Letter-Book I*, p. 167.)

Richard  
Wellom.

More details, both of private and public interest, have been preserved in connection with three other members of the Craft at this date. The highest in rank was Richard Wellom, the first Master of the Company, appointed by name in the incorporating charter of 1416. In February, 1398-9, he was a joint party with one John Russell in the conveyance of a tenement in Aldermanbury. (*Husting Roll* 127, 51, 58.) He was



associated with Martin Godard and other members of the Mistery on 10th October, 1407, in acquiring the reversion of the portion of Adam Fermour's estate lying in Watling Street and Bread Street. (*Ibid.* 135, 15.) Between 1405 and 1426 he instituted proceedings in Chancery against Philip Waltham, cutler, to recover arrears, extending over twelve years and more, of the rent of a shop in Fleet Street called "le Walsheman sur le Hope." (*Early Chanc. Proc.*, Bundle 4, no. 12.) A later deed shows that Richard Wellom and Waltham, together with Richard Hatfield and others, had been enfeoffed of "le Walsheman," now more particularly described as a "tenementum bracinii" (brewery), with two shops adjoining, of a gate with porch, other shops, and a plot of empty ground (all in Fleet Street in the parish of St. Martin), by Thomas Duke and Joan Batly in February, 1413-14, presumably to the use of Richard Wellom, who, with his wife Cecily, granted one half of the property to John Joynour and his wife Ellen on 1st October, 1427. (*Husting Roll* 156, 13.)

Owner of  
a brewery.

In the same suit the name of Richard Hatfield occurs. He was elected Senior Warden in 1420 at a special meeting held to compose the differences then existing within the Company (see p. 127), and had served the City in various ways before that time. In 1379 he was collector of the poll-tax in "Cordwanerstreet" (*Letter-Book H*, p. 130), in 1384 one of "the best and wisest men of the City" elected by the Common Council to deliberate on certain matters of importance (*Ibid.*, p. 235), and also auditor of the accounts of the Chamberlain and of the Wardens of London Bridge. (*Ibid.*, p. 249.) He was chosen to serve on other commissions the next year (*Ibid.* pp. 252, 271), and in June, 1388, his name appears in Cordwainer Ward in a list of "the chief men of the City" who took oath not to suffer the acts lately passed by Parliament to be repealed. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll*, A. 28, m. 13.) In 1416

Richard  
Hatfield.

Auditor of  
the City and  
Bridge  
Accounts.

One of the  
chief men of  
the City.

he was one of the jurors at the trial of Benedict Wolman and John Bekeryng on the charge of bringing the Pretender Thomas Warde *als.* Trumpyngtone from Scotland under the title of Richard II. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 165.) Some particulars of his private life are on record. In 1388 his wife was Dionisia, the widow of Richard Claverynge. (*Letter-Book H*, p. 15.) He was surety (1377-89) for Katherine Norton in the guardianship of her children (*Ibid.*, pp. 75-6); and was also appointed guardian of the children of John Parys, late cutler and one of the legatees under the will of another cutler, John Gerold (p. 105), for a term of five years from March, 1421-2. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 268.)

Guardian of  
orphan chil-  
dren.

Richard Hatfield's securities for the due execution of his trust included Philip Waltham and John Kirtone, cutlers, and Nicholas Ringwode, bladesmith; the last-named was living in 1435. (*Pat. Roll*, 14 Hen. VI, pt. 1, no. 28.) His surety Philip may have been a son of Richard Waltham whose will is dated 1397, in which year together with John Parker, cutler, and Henry Cooke, barber, he purchased some lands in Fleet Street once owned by Adam Fermour. (*Husting Roll* 126, 22.) Roger Waltham, apprenticed to John Frantrede in 1443-4, and Edward Waltham (both cutlers) who obtained the freedom in 1466-7, were probably of the same family. In 1412 Richard Hatfield had been one of the trustees for lands in Seacoal Lane in the parishes of St. Sepulchre and St. Bride which had passed from Henry Blakewyn, cutler, through his widow Marion to John Blakewyn, cutler, and his wife Margaret. (*Ibid.* 139, 71.) The Richard Hatfield, cutler, who took part in the settlement (by deed enrolled in 1456) of a tenement with wharf and quay adjoining Fleet Bridge (*Ibid.* 184, 14) seems to have belonged to a later generation. He was perhaps the Richard Hatfield who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Dunstaple and had by her a son, Thomas, and daughter,

Philip  
Waltham.

A later  
Richard  
Hatfield.



Magdalene. In February, 1488-9, Thomas and his wife Elizabeth surrendered to Henry Snawe, Magdalene's husband, their right in a tenement and shops in the lane of St. Nicholas Acon in the parish of St. Martin Orgar (once owned by John Dunstaple), and other property. (*Husting Roll* 219, 9.)

Amongst the contemporaries of the earlier Richard Hatfield were the three Rulers of the Mistery sworn in 1415, the year before the incorporation of the Company. John Parker, the first of these, was again in office as Master or Warden between 1416 and 1420. He acted with others on behalf of the Company (in 1407 and 1417) in the acquisition of property both in Watling Street and in Cloak Lane, and of a shop in Cheap and a tenement in Dowgate Ward. (*Ibid.* 135, 15; 145, 7.) In January, 1412-13, he was assessed at 44s. amongst owners of a yearly income of 20*l.* and upwards, and he appears to have been acting as trustee in January, 1423-4 and in 1429. (*Ibid.* 152, 45; 158, 5; *Lay Subs.* 144, 20.) He can hardly be identified with the John Parker who was Junior Warden in 1442-3 and 1443-4. One of the two had a grandson, who as John Parker, gentleman, son and heir of Richard Parker, son and heir of John Parker, cutler, with his wife Joan, owned property in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, in the last years of the fifteenth century. (*Husting Roll* 225, 62.) Second to Parker, as ruler in 1415, was Thomas Kyngestone, also a feoffee in 1407 and 1417. (*Ibid.* 135, 15; 145, 7.) The third Ruler in 1415 was John Swalwe, to whom, jointly with Stephen Hermer (also a cutler), John Parker and Thomas Kynton made, in 1417, the curious grant (printed on pp. 291-293) which is associated with the name of Martin Godard.

John  
Parker.

Thomas  
Kyngestone.

Of John Hyde, co-feoffee of John Parker and Thomas Kyngestone in 1407, who had been a Ruler of the Mistery in 1392, we learn from other sources that he at one time held the office of Escheator Royal in Berkshire, and acted as witness at

John Hyde.

Setcombe in the same county as late as 1437. (*Westm. Abbey Records*, Deeds 7176, 7399.) Two of his fellow craftsmen, lately deceased in 1422, were John Lyndesey and Henry Whitby. (*Husting Rolls* 151, 6, 18 ; 160, 30.) Henry had married Isabel, daughter of John Lye, and a tenement in Fleet Street which came to them from Richard Lye, Isabel's brother, was sold by their son and heir, John, by deeds of conveyance dated 1422, 1431, and 1437. (*Ibid.* 151, 6 ; 160, 30 ; 166, 16.)

Henry  
Whitby.

Martin  
Godard.

Martin Godard is especially worthy of note for the length of his service, which extended over nearly forty years. He was Ruler of the Mistery at various dates from 1379 to 1393, and Senior Warden on its incorporation in 1416 and in 1417, and possibly held office even later. Adam Craft, stockfishmonger, and his wife, Cecilia, leased a tenement in Abchurch Lane to Martin Godard in December, 1391. (*Husting Roll* 120, 53.) Martin was brother of John Godard, goldsmith, with whom he was associated in 1397 in a settlement of the property of John Smyth, tailor, and his wife, Alice. (*Ibid.* 126, 99, 104.) The next year John Godard appointed his brother, Martin, one of his executors. (*Ibid.* 127, 85.) On 31st January, 1401-2, in discharge of his trust, Martin delivered to the Chamberlain the property of his two nieces, Katherine and Anne, the charge being then transferred with his consent to William Sudbury, draper, who married Cecilia, his late brother's widow. (*Letter-Book* I, p. 17.) His name appears in deeds of 1399, 1402-3, and 1412, showing that he transacted business for Stephen and Solomon Oxney, goldsmiths (*Husting Roll* 129, 43), also for Solomon and his wife, Cecily, late the wife of Thomas Boner, in connection with certain London properties. (*Ibid.* 131, 41 ; 139, 82.)

Associated  
with his  
brother and  
other gold-  
smiths.

In 1415 Martin was one of a jury summoned to determine the validity of a marriage contracted by the orphan daughter of a late Alderman without the consent of the Mayor and



Aldermen. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 142.) He was surety for the guardianship of John, son of John Oxneye, the same year. (*Ibid.*, p. 143.) If not himself one of the benefactors of the Company, he was certainly concerned in a deed of charity to its poorer members. In 1417 he granted a tenement in Dowgate Ward in the parish of St. Michael Paternoster Royal which he had held with Solomon Oxney and John Godard, goldsmiths, (whether in trust or as private property is not clear) to his fellow cutlers, John Parker and Thomas Kynton, who settled it, with other property, for the benefit of the poor men of their Mistery. (*Husting Rolls* 145, 5, 6, 7; 162, 25.) To the same year belongs the grant made by two past officers to two other members of the Company of an annual rent of five marks and four yards of coloured cloth as often as new "clothing" was issued by the Master and Wardens of the Mistery of Cutlers to the Brethren of their Fraternity. The grant was to issue from various properties including certain lands in the parish of St. Michael Paternoster, acquired by the grantors, Parker and Kynton, from Martin Godard, and it was limited to the term of the lives of Martin Godard and his wife, Marion, or the survivor. (*See pp.* 291-3.) Not long afterwards, Martin Godard was discharged from further service on juries, etc., on the ground of increasing old age. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 181.)

A trustee for the poor of the Company.

Curious grant for the term of his life.

Amongst the Masters and Wardens who served between 1416 and 1420 were William Graunger, John Munt, Peter Tomere, and John Chadde. (*Ibid.*, pp. 249-50.) John Munt had been executor in 1407 of John Combe, cutler, who left a daughter, Johanna. (*Ibid.*, pp. 56, 65.) William Graunger, the husband of Ellen, daughter of John Twyford, cutler, was appointed executor of the will of his father-in-law on 7th July, 1414. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 1, f. 330.) Richard, John's son, also a cutler, was already dead, and John left Richard's goods to William Graunger's care for the use of

John Munt.

William Graunger.

his grandchildren. From January, 1416-17, to November, 1420, the guardianship of one of these children, a son, was entrusted to William. (*Letter-Book I*, pp. 170, 246.)

John  
Chadde.

Of John Chadde, who was appointed Junior Warden by the Charter of 1416, somewhat more is known. He had been one of the pledges of William Hegge on his prosecution for burglary in or near the Cutlery ten years previously (*Letter-Book F*, p. 275) and executor of William Boxsone, late pewterer, in 1415. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 140.) In 1424 he was concerned in a conveyance of lands in All Saints parish in Broad Street Ward. (*Husting Roll 152*, 44.) He had also an interest in tenements in the same parish (now known as Allhallows, London Wall) from the solar of which he left rent to his wife, Joan, in 1434, and with the same Joan acquired and owned a tenement in Conynghopelane, in the parish of St. Mildred, Poultry. The latter property was to be sold after Joan's death for the benefit of poor householders (parishioners of St. Mary Colechurch and St. Mildred), and of poor cutlers. His will, proved in January, 1435-6, also provided for his burial in St. Mildred's church. (*Ibid.* 164, 28.) He may perhaps be identified with the John Chadde, who served in 1429 on a jury to determine what goods John Coventre, late Alderman, had left. (*Letter-Book K*, p. 105.)

A benefactor of the  
Company.

The Master elected at the special meeting of 1420 when Richard Hatfield became Senior Warden (*see* p. 127) was William Multone, who with his wife, Agnes, was concerned in the sale of premises in Colbrook and Stanwell between 1414 and 1421. (*Feet of Fines*, edd. Hardy and Page, v. 1, pp. 178-81.) He also owned a tenement in the parish of St. Lawrence Jewry in January, 1438-9. (*Husting Roll 167*, 26.) In the assembly above mentioned Thomas Warde took part, and John Whestowe was elected Junior Warden. In the accounts for the year 28-29 Henry VI (1450-1) it is recorded that the " obit of Wes-

William  
Multone.

John Whes-  
towe.



towe" cost the Company 3s. Of Richard Elyot, bladesmith, nothing more is known than the burglary and robbery of his house in the parish of St. Sepulchre by Thomas Broun of London, "brueresman," in 1419. (*Letter-Book I*, p. 230.) The name of William Squyer, sheather, of the Ward of Farringdon Without, has survived in connection with an event of more general interest. In 1420 he was, in company with other rebellious citizens, committed to gaol for refusing to contribute to a subsidy of 2,000 marks granted to the King, and for defying the authority of the Alderman of the Ward of Bread Street. (*Ibid.*, p. 245.) Nothing seems to be known of Geoffrey Gyburn, cutler, beyond the fact that in January, 1433-4, he was associated with others in the purchase of the reversion of lands in the parish of Allhallows, Fenchurch Street. (*Husting Roll 162*, 47.) Another cutler of whom only a single mention is preserved, John Salman, sold part of his inheritance in Seacoal Lane in 1438. (*Ibid. 167*, 17.)

William  
Squyer.

Besides the instances already quoted of the employment of members of the Craft in the guardianship of the orphans of their fellow citizens, we may also notice Thomas Chymbehame, to whom the care of John, son of Robert Eland, late draper, was entrusted in February, 1425-6. (*Letter-Book K*, p. 50), and Thomas Belgrave about eight years later guardian, with four others, fishmongers, of the children of Richard Gosselyn, late ironmonger. (*Ibid.*, p. 166.) Belgrave was Junior Warden in 1428, and probably served the higher offices also. In 1433 he joined with others in purchasing two shops in the parish of St. Mildred, Poultry, which they sold to Sir William Estfeld, seven years later. (*Husting Rolls 161*, 44 ; *169*, 30.) He was engaged in similar transactions in 1434, 1436, and 1437 (*Ibid. 163*, 15, 16 ; *164*, 59) when Walter Brightwalton *alias* Northwold, fellow Warden of John Howys in 1433, was one of his co-trustees. (*Ibid. 162*, 25.) In 1450-1 Belgrave figures much in the accounts

Thomas  
Belgrave.

A large  
owner of  
property.

Relations  
with the  
Company.

respecting the conveyance of certain property (which cannot be identified) to the Company. "Paid to Thomas Froddesham for makynge of dedes made by Belgrave & other vnto the seid Maister & Wardeyns, 10s." "Item in expenses vpon the seid Belgrade (*sic*) in a soper atte kynges hede in Chepe & for a knyfe gyven vnto the same Belgrade, 3s. 4d." There was also a payment of 3s. 4d. "to Eton man of lawe for his counsell in makynge of the seid dedes," and of 6d. "in expenses on the same Eton." Two "bedelles" received 5s. at taking possession, and 3s. 6d. was further spent in "expenses." In 1464-5 "Belgrave and his wif" dined with the Company as their guests.

John Hoke's  
offences.

In 1428-9 Thomas Belgrave had taken part, with his fellow Wardens William Brown and John Newenton, in the prosecution of John Hoke, cutler, before the Mayor and Aldermen. A baselard harnessed with silver of false alloy had been found in John's house, and on its evidence he was convicted and fined 40d. Within a month he was again charged with a like offence, two bars of silver of false alloy used for harnessing a girdle being produced against him. The fine of 6s. 8d. then inflicted was followed eight days later by another of 10s. when two locketts of silver of false alloy used for harnessing a baselard, the property of John Howys, cutler, brought about a third conviction. The record states that judgment was passed pursuant to the Ordinance recorded in Letter-Book F, fol. xc, this Ordinance being the Cutlers' "Articles" of 1344. (*Letter-Book K*, pp. 93-4.) The penalty for a fourth conviction would have been to forswear the Mistery.

Fines for  
aliens'  
wares.

Less serious violations of the Company's rules than those just recorded belong to the year 1456-7 when William Getter, Richard Hollys, John Munde (possibly of the family of John Munt of 1416-20, p. 187), William Swone, John Alyn, and William Grey, paid fines for "Alienez wares," as did also their better known contemporaries John Amell, Thomas Pakeman,



and Thomas Pope. John Howys, Warden in 1433, in which capacity he took part in the conveyance of some of the Company's property (*Husting Roll* 162, 26, 42, 43), was probably the father of Richard Howys, liveryman in 1449-50, who paid 6s. 8d. for the debt of his father in 1452-3.

Thomas Trylle, Master in 1444-5 and again in 1452-3, is probably the cutler of that name who between 1407 and 1457 sued one John Kirkby, clerk, in Chancery for refusing either to quit, or pay rent for, his house in the suburbs. (*Early Chan. Proc.*, Bundle 16, no. 476). A "Thomas Tyll, coteler," who witnessed a deed of 1429 may possibly be the same person. (*Husting Roll* 158, 5.) Trylle acquired lands in "Bogerrowe" (Budge Row) in the parish of St. John Walbrook in 1432. (*Ibid.* 161, 23), and in 1433, 1438, and 1451 he was engaged in the conveyance to the Company of their premises in Cloak Lane. He can hardly be the Thomas Trylle, cutler, discharged in 1443, as had been Richard Batell (another of the same craft) five years earlier, from service on juries and similar duties on account of "inert old age"; for he was buying ivory in 1461-2, and seems to have been in full possession of his faculties when he made his will, proved the following May, in September, 1465. (*P. C. C.* 11 Godyn.) In the church of St. John Walbrook, where he desired to be buried, a priest was to be provided to celebrate throughout one year at the altar of St. Mary for the souls of himself and his benefactors. He did not neglect his apprentices. Agnes, his wife, was directed to excuse one of them, Thomas Couper, for the last year of his term, or pay him 16s. 8d. for his service; and a bequest of 6s. 8d. was left to another, John Spanby, on condition of his continued good conduct. This may be the John Spannesby who was a liveryman and took William Woodroof as apprentice in 11-12 Edward IV (1471-2), and held the office of Senior Warden in 9-10 Henry VII (1494-5). Another cutler named John Spannesby

Thomas  
Trylle.

A feoffee  
of the  
Company.

His will.

John  
Spannesby.

paid 10s. as freedom fee in 18-19 Edward IV (1478-9). Thomas Couper, Trylle's other apprentice, was probably of the same family as John Cowper, "shether," whose will was proved in January, 1496-7. (See p. 26.) It would seem that Thomas Trylle died childless, the only near relative mentioned in his will being Elizabeth, widow of his son William. Besides the two apprentices above-mentioned, John Pope, Walter Rawnsone, and William Sprigge had served him as apprentices.

Thomas  
Otehill.

Thomas Otehill, citizen and cutler, who was associated with Thomas Trylle's widow as executor, was an active member of the Company from 1442 to 1472, a liveryman in 1442-3, Senior Warden in 1444-5, Master in 1456-7 and again in 1469-70. He was carrying on his business in 1464-5, when he bought "a hole tothe" of ivory weighing 51 lbs. (See p. 328.) Of two of his apprentices, Thomas Clarence and John Sharp, the names only seem to have been preserved. Richard Otehill, probably a kinsman, who was apprenticed to him in 1442-3, was made free in 1469-70.

William  
Seton.

William Seton, apprenticed to Otehill in 1442-3, was a man of some substance, serving the Company in much the same way as his Master before him. The records of the sale of ivory show that he was practising his craft in 1462-3. (See p. 327.) He was Junior Warden in 1464-5, Rent-gatherer from 1468 to 1470 and in 1471-2, and Master in 1470-2, 1478-80, 1484-6, and 1496-8. He was associated, with his fellow cutlers William Vale and John Brown, in 1466 in the purchase of lands in Fleet Street, and seven years later with John Brown and other citizens in acquiring property in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate. (*Husting Rolls* 196, 18, 19, 20; 203, 26.) The second purchase seems to have been made on behalf of William himself, as a deed enrolled in 1536 records the sale by Lancelot Eyre and his wife Elizabeth, kinswoman and heiress of the late William Seton, cutler, of lands and tenements in



this parish. (*Ibid.* 241, 46.) From a suit brought against him in Chancery between 1459 and 1465, it may be assumed that he was something of a Shylock. He had acquired a tenement in the parish of St. Olave by the Tower from Richard son of George Trony in 1461, Robert Trot and another being associated with him in the purchase. (*Ibid.* 191, 22.) This tenement and another in the same parish were given over the next year by Robert to William and his wife Clemency (*Ibid.* 192, 2), who afterwards released to him their rights in both. (*Ibid.* 193, 3.) It was probably in connection with this transaction that Robert became indebted to William for 30*l.* He undertook to make repayment in quarterly instalments of 20*s.* every Monday after the quarter-day "at Seynt Thomas of Acres in London at a certeyn auter ther between viij and x in the morning every tyme." At first all went well, but when the fourth payment was due, Robert in his lay ignorance supposed that the next quarter-day was the Monday after Easter Day, instead of the Annunciation, and did not appear at the hour appointed. As soon as "x of the klok was striken," William departed and refused to receive the money though it was pressed upon him by the defaulter, who seems to have quickly discovered his mistake a quarter of an hour later. (*Early Chanc. Proc.*, Bundle 28, no. 292.) The William Seton, cutler, discharged in 1470 from serving on juries owing to deafness and other infirmities (*Letter-Book L*, p. 90), can hardly be identified with a man who was Master twenty-eight years later, but may have belonged to the same family.

Sued in  
Chancery  
for harsh  
dealing.

An illustration of the importance to which members of the Craft sometimes attained outside the limits of City life is afforded by a grant of protection made in or before 1441 to John Lane, citizen and cutler, for accompanying John, Earl of Huntingdon, Lieutenant of the Duchy of Aquitaine on a mission for the safe keeping and victualling of Bordeaux. Though the safe-conduct

John Lane.

was afterwards withdrawn "because he tarries in London and the suburbs thereof" (*Patent Roll* 19 Hen. VI, pt. 2, m. 4), it is likely that John's business lay chiefly in foreign parts. He appears as a liveryman in the first Account, 1442-3, about which time another John Lane, perhaps his son, was apprenticed to him.

William  
Brown.

The first Master whose name appears in the Company's official records is William Brown, Warden in 1428-9, and the owner of two shops in "le Baile" without Newgate six years later. (*Husting Roll* 163, 9.) He appears as Master in the Account for 1442-3 and was Master the following year also, and again for the two consecutive years 1449-51. In 1431 he had been associated with William Donne, clerk, as executor of the will of William Wyllymotte or Wylmot, late of London, clerk. (*Patent Roll* 10 Hen. VI, pt. 1, m. 28.) He would seem to have made a bequest to the Company, and died before or in 1453-4\*, when the following entry appears in the account: "Paid for the dyner of Brownes wyf when she brought in the cup vnto the craft & for an acquytance 5s. 2d." The names of three of his apprentices, Roger Soker bound in 1443-4, Thomas Stamper in 1444-5, and Edward Manyng in 1450-1, have been preserved, as also that of Henry Padworth, whom Agnes Brown, presumably his widow, took as her apprentice in 1461-2. That Agnes carried on her husband's business with vigour and success is shown by the account of the sums laid out by her in ivory. On two occasions, in 1461-2 and 1464-5, she was the largest purchaser in the Company; the first time buying 24 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. for 24s. 9d., the second 63 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. for 42s. 4d. In 1462-3, when she bought 22 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. for 22s. 9d., she was second only to John Catour. (See p. 327.)

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany.

Agnes  
Brown.

William  
Bode.

Of two members of the Craft, William Bode and John Eland, admitted to the Freedom in 1442-3, the former is only

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\* Another cutler of this name was living in 1468. (*Husting Roll* 199, 16).



remembered for his misfortunes as surety. He entered into a bond on behalf of Thomas Hillary who undertook to keep certain persons harmless against the King, and though, as he maintained, Thomas fulfilled his engagement, this did not save William from prosecution for debt before or in 1465. (*Early Chanc. Proc.*, Bundle 27, no. 410.) His fellow freeman, John Eland, who took Roger Burford as his apprentice after his admission, is perhaps the John Aylond to whom Piers Rees was apprenticed in 1452-3. Either he or a son of the same name was a liveryman in 1477-8, paying 5s., arrears of his entry fee, in 1483-4, and another 5s. the following year, and taking Robert Traunt and Andrew Wright as apprentices. He may have been the father of John Eyland, the King's cutler. (*See later*, p. 209.) Another of the numerous variations of the name Eland, Aylond, or Eyland, seems to be the form Alend, one John Alend being apprenticed to John Madam in 1452-3.

John  
Aylond.

A leading member of the Craft was the elder John Amell, a liveryman in 1443-4, when he took John Payn and Walter Pilsty as his apprentices, Junior Warden in 1452-3, and Master in 1459-60. His will, a lengthy document of great interest, is dated 7th February, 1473, and was proved on 26th February following. (*P. C. C.* 12 Wattys). From this we learn that he lived in the parish of St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge, and survived his wife, Joan, his nearest relative being his sister, Margaret Holwey. Mention is also made of his cousins, John Amell, of Greenwich, and Cicely Amell, and of Adam Fermour, his kinsman, a prominent cutler of earlier date. (*See* p. 92.) In his testament he provided for his burial "in the myddes of the body of the parish church or College of seint Mighelle called Whytyngton's College," and left 6s. 8d. to that church for the purpose. Other clauses contain bequests to the church of St. Magnus and to "the workes of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul." Of very human interest is the apportioning, common

John  
Amell.

His testa-  
ment.

Distribution  
of his effects.

in early wills, of plate and household stuff to various legatees ;  
“ to Margaret my sister the hangyng Bankers and Quyshens  
in myn hall hoole as thei be, my bed in my Chambre . . . .  
my two siluer spones being in my boxe, all my peauter vessell  
goyng a brode, all my pottes of Peauter, an holy water stoupe of  
Peauter, two Candelstikkcs of laton ” (and other items). To  
John Amell “ all my bedding being in my Chambre at Walworth  
and all my weryng clothes except my best blue gowne and my  
Murrey gowne engreyned.” The residue of his personal property  
was to be sold to provide masses for his own soul and all Christian  
souls, and for the relief of poor prisoners and other necessitous  
persons. The last will, which follows the testament, deals  
with his real property. A cottage and curtilage in Aldgate  
Street and land in “ Baaffeld in Stebbenhugh,” in which Margaret  
Holwey had a life interest, were to remain after her death to  
the use of the Master, Wardens, and Commonalty of the Craft  
of Cutlers of London to disburse 26s. 8*d*. every quarter “ to  
6 poor men of the said Crafte of goode and vertuous disposicion  
suche as falle vnto pouertee by the Infortunitee of the world and  
nott by any other mysghydyng. . . . vnder this fourme that  
euery such poure man haue at euery such terme xiiij*d*. to relieve  
his poure degree their with which amounteth among the vj per-  
sones att euery terme vjs. vjd. And the ij*d*. thanne remaynyng of  
euery such vjs. viij*d*. atte a terme I woll they be deliuered to the  
saide vj poure men they to bestowe it in good ale and make them  
mery their with.” Part of the remaining issues of the property  
was to be expended in associating the names of the donor and his  
wife in the masses said by the Cutlers’ Company for the soul of  
Adam Fermour. Richard Arnold, one of Amell’s executors, and a  
fellow parishioner of St. Magnus, London Bridge, was a well-known  
antiquary and chronicler, whose work entitled the “ Customs of  
London ” or “ Arnold’s Chronicle ” contains the earliest known  
version of the interesting “ Ballade of y<sup>e</sup> Notte-browne Mayde.”

Last will.

Gift to poor  
Cutlers.

Association  
with Adam  
Fermour.



The name of Walter Lucy would seem, in the absence of evidence for their identification as one man, to have been borne by two members of the Craft. In 1429 the elder of these, who had been admitted into the freedom of the City as a Cutler about twenty-eight years before, petitioned to be translated into the Mistery of Haberdashers, having followed that calling for a considerable time past. (*Letter-Book K*, p. 109.) His prayer, seconded by the Master and good men of the Mistery of Haberdashers, was granted, and in the course of the next two years he became one of the Masters of his adopted Mistery. (*Ibid.*, p. 143.) Possibly the Walter Lucy, citizen and cutler, who was one of the creditors of Thomas Bolle of Eltham in 1444, was his son or relative. (*Pat. Roll*, 23 Hen. VI, pt. 1, m. 28.) Of William Scot, cutler, it is recorded that in 1447 Simon Sigale, a Genoese merchant, undertook under penalty of 40*l.* to do him no harm. (*Ibid.*, 25 Hen. VI, pt. 2, m. 27.) A Henry Scot, perhaps William's son, was apprenticed to Nicholas Asser in 1462-3. James Begaraunt, who took part as Warden in the formal acquisition of the Cloak Lane site in May, 1451, bound Thomas Baret as his apprentice the following year. Ten years later, this Thomas, now himself a cutler, was associated with William Seton and others in a conveyance of property near the Tower. (*Husting Roll* 192, 1.) He seems to have increased his business considerably in the course of the next few years, for in 1461-2 he bought 2 lbs. of ivory, in 1462-3, 12 lbs., whilst in 1464-5 his name appears as the purchaser of "a hole tothe of Ivory wayng 52½ lbs." (*See pp.* 327-328.)

Walter  
Lucy.

Perhaps two  
Cutlers so  
named.

William  
Scot.

Thomas  
Baret.

Between 1467 (or possibly 1433) and 1472 several members of the Craft figured in Chancery suits. The first of these, John Kynge, described as bladesmith but also a member of the Cutlers' Company, being a liveryman in 1452-3 and taking William Bardall as apprentice in 1461-2, petitioned against his imprisonment in Ludgate prison pending an action for debt brought

William  
Bardall.

against him by Thomas Person. (*Early Chan. Proc.*, Bundle 46, no. 321.) During the same period William Ingham summoned a brother cutler, John Calker, on a bond for sale to him of an apprentice who died soon after the transfer. (*Ibid.*, Bundle 10, no. 124.) John Calker, who had himself been apprenticed to John Fordham in 1453-4, was again in trouble for some irregularity in connection with an apprentice in 1485-6. The name of John Fordham appears in a settlement of 1458 (*Husting Roll* 187, 8, 15), and again in 1461-2 as a purchaser of ivory. (*See* p. 327.)

Robert  
Pykmere.

Of high standing and reputation, if we may judge by his service in the Company, was Robert Pykmere, liveryman in 1442-3, Senior Warden in 1453-4, Rent-gatherer in 1458-9 and 1467-8, and Master five times between the years 1468 and 1484. The names of his apprentices John Wodecot, Henry Pykmere, Michael Acres, John Russell, Roger Pykmere, William Hedon, Edmond Hall, and John Dawne, have been preserved. In his will of 7th February, 1487, proved on 5th May following (*P.C.C.* 7 Milles), he leaves "to the Commonalte of my crauft of Cuttelers in the Citte of london a fyne new bord cloth of diapre werk werkid wt Crosse diamondis conteynyng viij yards in lenght and a yarde and halfe in brede." He provides for his burial with his late wife Johanne in the church of St. Bride, Fleet Street, before the north door; leaving 4s. to four "poore persones of my craufte" who were to act as bearers. One of his executors, Robert Gate, described as "shether," is not named amongst the members of the Company, from which it appears that at this date the Sheathers had not been incorporated with the Cutlers. To Thomas Pykmere "myn cosin Citezen and Cutteler," Robert Pykmere left a standing mazer mounted in "siluer and ouergilte." Thomas himself became a liveryman about this date, and held the offices of Junior and Senior Warden in the latter years of the century. An apprentice bound to him in 13-14

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany.

Thomas  
Pykmere.



Henry VII, one Humphrey Pykmere, was probably, like the Henry and Roger who served his cousin in the same capacity, one of the same family. Among his other apprentices were Thomas Bromehurst and John Farby.

Another legatee, and the overseer of Robert Pykmere's will, was William Vale, liveryman in 1461-2, afterwards rising through the offices of Warden and Rent-gatherer, to become Master in 1481-2 and again in 1486-7. William, who was one of the securities for Thomas Covell, a Warden of the Dyers' Company, in 1486 (*Journal* 9, f. 123.), was probably a relative of John Vale, Senior Warden in 1464-5, and of the same family as Richard Vale, Senior Warden in 1572. The extent of his business, as in the case of his friend and colleague, is shown by the list of apprentices bound to him; William More, 1461-2; Robert Morteyn, 1468-9; John Cotteman, 1470-1; John Preston, 1473-4; Thomas Preston, 1478-9; Thomas Hornecluf, 1480-1; and Richard Percyvale, 1489-90. His will, dated 1452, with seal attached, is preserved amongst the records of St. Paul's Cathedral. (*Hist. MSS. Com.* 9th Rep., App. p. 48.) He leaves certain tenements in Distaff Lane and in St. Lawrence Lane to maintain a chantry in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, for the good estate in this life or that to come of Sir William Say, Dean Say, Henry, Earl of Essex, Lord Mountjoy, many members of the Say family, and Dean Shirborne.

William  
Vale.

Another prominent member of the Craft, John Dey, liveryman in 1442-3, was three times Master, in 1468-9, 1475-6, and 1476-7. A settlement of all their property in the City on certain trustees, amongst whom was John Dey, cutler, was made by Richard and Alice Hayward in 1460-1. (*Husting Roll* 189, 20.) In 1468 John was one of a jury appointed to settle the differences between William Rotheley, goldsmith, and John Johnson, butcher, touching lands in Woolwich. (*Letter-Book K*, p. 393.) He entered into a bond on behalf of Felix Brynknell,

John Dey.

His will.

widow, in February, 1472-3 (*Letter-Book L*, p. 110), and in his will of 5th September, 1475, left marriage portions of two marks each to her daughters Isabella and Matilda. (*P. C. C.* 21 Wattys.) Among many other pious and charitable bequests was a sum of 5*l.* for distribution amongst the poor, especially those of his own Craft, who were householders in the City and suburbs of London. He was probably a native of Watford where he held lands, for he left 15*l.* for the repair of bad and ruinous ways between London and Watford, and six marks for the poor of the parish to be laid out in cloth, linen, and wool. A life-interest in his lands in Watford and his tenement and shops in the Old Jewry was enjoyed by his widow Margaret, a daughter of John Pykton, citizen of London. Their sons, Robert, Richard and John, and their daughter Isabella, were minors at their father's death, but William the eldest son and a daughter Margaret seem to have been of age. In July, 1476, Margaret Dey, with John Toker, cutler, and others, entered into a bond for payment of her husband's legacies to their children Robert and Isabella, of whom she was appointed guardian by his will. (*Letter-Book L*, pp. 142-3.) John Dey, one of the younger sons, was admitted to the Freedom in 1483-4.

Charitable bequests.

John Catour.

Little is known of the private history of John Catour, another leading cutler of this period, beyond the fact that he was a man of some substance in 1412-13, when he was assessed at 6*s.* 8*d.* as the owner of an income of not less than 20*l.* a year. (*Lay Subs.* 144, 19.) He seems to have been actively engaged in trade most of his life, for he bought ivory in considerable quantities between 1461 and 1469. (*See* pp. 327-328.) As Warden he took part in the acquisition of the Cloak Lane site in May, 1451; he had been Rent-gatherer in 1442-3, and was twice Master, in 1458-9 and 1465-6. In 1461 he was associated with William Hubberd, bladesmith, and other trustees, in the acquisition of a tenement in Fleet Street once called "le Rose on the



hoop," but then known as "le Chirche on the Hope" (*Husting Roll* 191, 5), and of lands in the parish of St. Martin in the Vintry. (*Ibid.* 191, 6.) Some land in the parish of St. Lawrence Jewry, which John Catour had held jointly with William Brown and William Brynkenell, cutlers, and Richard Hayward, mercer, were demised by him to John Dey in 1468, when his associates were dead. (*Ibid.* 199, 16.) William Hubberd, the bladesmith above mentioned, and his wife Agnes, acquired land in the parish of St. Martin Ludgate in January, 1448-9. (*Ibid.* 177, 20, 21.) William took part in another purchase in 1461. (*Ibid.* 191, 25.)

In 1450 John Deynes, of Halesworth, Suffolk, cutler, failed to appear before the Justices of the Bench on the summons of Robert Hynkeley, citizen and bladesmith of London. (*Pat. Roll*, 28 Hen. VI, pt. 1, m. 20.) Robert was dead two years later, when his widow Agnes and her second husband, John Leylond, skinner, were allowed the use of his mark, the double crescent, notwithstanding the petition of the Mistery of Bladesmiths, John Morth, bladesmith, being at the same time compelled to relinquish the same mark. (*Journal* 6, f. 249.) This mark is *drawn* in the Ordinance of 23rd January, 1519-20, where it is assigned to Thomas Jakson. (*See* p. 118.) Another bladesmith of this period, John Benet, in 1458 acquired with others a rent from tenements in Fleet Street which had formerly passed through the hands of John Parker. (*Husting Roll* 187, 30.)

Robert  
Hynkeley.

Dispute as  
to a mark.

Three members of the family of Harrison were connected with the Company in the second half of the fifteenth century, Richard apprenticed to John Goffe in 1461-2, Thomas apprenticed to John Chamber in 1489-90, and a second Richard who obtained the freedom in 1496-7. Thomas Harrison seems to be the bladesmith of that name associated in 1486 with another bladesmith, Richard Wilcocks, as surety for the appearance of

The  
Harrisons.



John Dober before the Mayor and Aldermen. (*Journal* 9, f. 126.) All three afterwards served the Bladesmiths' Mistery as Warden; Dober in 1488, Wilcocks in 1489, and Thomas Harrison in 1490-1 in place of Wilcocks deceased. (*Ibid.*, f. 303*b*.) Wilcocks, like Harrison, was a member of both Crafts, having become a freeman of the Cutlers in 1465-6. The above City record preserves the names of the following cutlers; living, Richard Colle and Peter Forster in 1486-7, Thomas Piguier in 1488, Robert Serle, William Humfrey and Robert Bewyke in 1489, and William Wall in 1490. (*Ibid.*, ff. 144*b*, 217*b*, 231*b*, 241, 263*b*.) Of Thomas Read, cutler, two facts only are recorded, his marriage with Elizabeth, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Henry and Elizabeth Skete, and their surrender in 1466 of their right to a tenement in the parish of St. Michael Cornhill, which the elder Elizabeth had once held. (*Husting Roll* 196, 26.)

Thomas  
Read.

A good deal more is known of William Hertwell, who became a freeman in 1469-70, Junior Warden in 1476-8, and Senior Warden in 1480-1; he was Rent-gatherer from 1483 to 1487, and twice Master, in 1489-90 and 1495-6. John Adamson, John Storurre, William Hynkys, John Cokkys (possibly a descendant of James Cokkes of the early years of this century, *see* p. 181), William Cotteman, and William Parker were all apprenticed to him. In his will, dated 30th July, 1497, he provided for his burial in the cloister of the churchyard of St. Magnus "nygh the brigge of London," and for the burning about his body of eight new tapers of wax and four torches. Four of these tapers were bequeathed to the same church, of which he was a parishioner, and two priests of its Fraternity were to pray daily for his soul during four years. He also provided for the singing of masses for his soul in the church of St. Magnus and by the religious of the Charterhouse and the Greyfriars. Ten marks each and gifts of plate were bequeathed to his son and his daughter Alice, wife of another cutler, John

William  
Hertwell.

His will.



Wylford. (*P. C. C.* 19 Moone.) John Wylford, who was apprenticed in 1478-9 to John Brown, a member of the Craft in 1466 and probably earlier (*Husting Rolls* 196, 18, 19, 20; 203, 26), was Senior Warden soon after the death of his father-in-law, who had made him one of his executors. More than forty years later, in 1537, he served in the same capacity for his friend William Heth (*P. C. C.* 3 Dingley), and in 1547 he was still a member of the Court of Assistants. (*See* p. 353.)

John  
Wylford.

Two members of the Pope family seem to belong entirely to the fifteenth century, and were perhaps father and son. A still earlier Thomas Pope, not known to be a cutler, was a Common Councilman for Cheap ward in 1383-4. (*Pleas and Mem. Roll A*, 27.) Thomas Pope, the elder, was a liveryman in 1449-50, when the binding fee of his apprentice Thomas Hedeley was reduced to 6s. 8d. and promptly paid. Junior Warden in 1459-60, and Senior Warden in 1465-6, he did not attain the office of Master, but died in 1470-1. Of John Pope, the younger, it is only recorded that he was apprenticed to Thomas Trylle in 1452-3, and between 1473 and 1475 petitioned the Court of Chancery touching an action brought against him by John Brown, of London, leatherseller. (*Early Chan. Proc.*, Bundle 48, no. 86.) At a later date, and probably near the end of the period 1475-1485 (since his apprenticeship to William Asser, a kinsman probably of Richard Asser, cutler, living in 1447, had only begun in 1468-9), another litigant of the Craft, John Hill, complained in Chancery against the Steward and Marshal of the Marshalsea for two malicious actions brought against him contrary to statute by John Whyte, brewer, for debt and trespass. He had been arrested, so his complaint ran, contrary to statute, "for both parties should be of the Kinges honourable housold wher in trouth nether partie is nor atte eny tyme hath been of the seid housold." (*Ibid.*, Bundle 60, no. 232.)

Thomas  
Pope, father  
and son.

John Hill.

John  
Chaumbre.

One of Hill's contemporaries, John Chaumbre, was probably son of the cutler of that name who owned land in "Burton Hamelette," Chesterford, Essex, before 1447. (*Westminster Abbey Records*, Deeds 3136, 3176.) John Chaumbre the younger, who was made free in 1474-5, petitioned the Court of Chancery between the years 1473 and 1475. He had been attorney and factor of one Robert Colyns, cofferer, whose executor afterwards brought an action against him. (*Early Chan. Proc.*, Bundle 48, no. 181.) In 1481-2 John was Rent-gatherer, and Senior Warden in 1489-90. About the same time (1473-5) another member of the Craft, John Martyn, entered a complaint against the Steward of the Court of the Savoy. One Thomas Moris, tailor, had delivered him a pair of "briganders" and two sleeves of mail in pledge for a loan of 20s., these goods Humphrey Wilkyngham, "a man abidyng within the Seyntuary of Westminster," assumed to be his own property and sued John Martyn in the Court of the Savoy, though they had been delivered in the parish of St. Bride Fleet Street within the boundaries of the City of London. (*Ibid.*, Bundle 48, no. 69.) William Martyn, apprenticed to William Haydour, 1468-9, was probably of the same family as John.

John  
Martyn.

Thomas  
Pakeman.

Thomas Pakeman, liveryman in 1442-3, and Master in 1465-6, fell into decay in the latter years of his life and being "a worshipfull man in the parish where he dwellid in," obtained a loan of 8*l.* 10*s.* from his neighbour, William Bolley. This debt William purposed to forgive, but when he and Thomas were both dead his widow Gertrude, then re-married to Richard Alder, sued Elizabeth, widow of Thomas, and her second husband, John Shipman, for the money. (*Ibid.*, Bundle 63, no. 120.) Pakeman never held office, but was a much respected brother, for whose "quytyng oute of Ludgate" prison in 1476-7 the Company paid the costs. (*Accounts*, 16-17 Edw. IV.) He was buying ivory for his trade in 1464-5 (*see* p. 328), but there

A prisoner  
in Ludgate.



is no evidence to show that he carried it on later. An alien member of the Craft, Godfrey Vincentio, dwelling with his wife Antonia, his daughter Margaret, and a servant, within the City, contributed to the subsidy granted in 1483. (*Subs. Roll* 144, 75a.) About three years later we meet the first cutler of the royal household, one Laudus Ramson, who received a life grant of the office of King's Cutler on 19th November, 1485 (*Pat. Roll*, 1 Hen. VII, pt. 1, m. 34), doubtless for some good service to the House of Lancaster. His name suggests a foreign nationality, but he is described as a cutler of the City of London. This being the earliest reference to the office, the document is printed in the Evidences (pp. 336-337).

Godfrey  
Vincentio.

Laudus  
Ramson,  
King's  
Cutler.

The names of William Bromefeld, William Leyfield, and Thomas Shaa, cutlers, survive in connection with certain bonds. In 1467 William Bromefeld bound himself in 20*l.* for the payment of a like sum by Gilbert Vyncent to Thomas, son of John Hopkyns, late goldsmith, on his coming of age. (*Letter-Book L*, p. 75.) From the Company's Accounts for 1478-9 it appears that he bought (for 5*s.*) a "C (100) of rede Dogeon," probably wood for the handles of knives. William Leyfield and Thomas Shaa became sureties in 1484 for the delivery by Thomas Hoberthorn, grocer, of 14*l.* and a carriage and four horses to the use of Roger, son of William Clopham, on attaining his majority. (*Ibid.*, p. 213.) In 1498 Robert Tyler, cutler, took part in a settlement of property on Andrew Teuwynter. (*Husting Roll* 225, 25.) Of earlier date was John Bull, cutler, who was engaged in 1472 and 1473-4 in a suit touching messuages and gardens in the parish of St. Botolph without Aldgate. (*Husting Pleas of Land* 168, mm. 25*d.*, 28*d.*) He became Clerk in 1489-90, and was probably a son of the John Bull whose wife bequeathed some plate to the Company in or before 1468-9. (*See* p. 178.) Another John Bull, probably of the same family, was a member of the Company in 1537-8. (*See* p. 351.)

William  
Bromefeld.

John Bull.

William  
Heth.

His will.

Leaves a  
"juell" to  
the Com-  
pany.

Funeral  
repasts.

William Heth, like his friend John Wylford, belongs both to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Though his name does not appear as a liveryman until 1498-9, and his mark, a W (interlaced Vs), was entered on 23rd January, 1519-20 (*Letter-Book N*, f. 132a. See illustration p. 118), he must have been established in business long before. As early as 1479-80 he took as his apprentice one William Hynkys (presumably "turned over" to William Hertwell the next year), who is probably the "Hynke" named in his will, proved in 1537, as amongst his intimates. (*P. C. C.* 3 Dyngeley.) Another of these "famyliar friends and lovers" was Thomas Garrard who had been apprenticed to Denys Deraunt in 1475-6. It is probable that William Heth served the higher offices in the Company, but the records of the early years of the sixteenth century have not been preserved. He left two sons, neither of whom followed his father's calling; one of them, Nicholas, being clerk and Master of Arts, the other, William, a mercer. To Agnes, his wife, he bequeathed his landed property in the parish of St. Botolph without Aldgate, with remainder (on her death or marriage) to his son William. He gave instructions for his burial in the church of St. Martin Ludgate in which parish he lived, and left money for its rood light, Fraternity high altar, and ornaments, and also for an obit and masses there. To his fellow craftsmen, John Wylford and John Eyland, he bequeathed 11*l.* in trust to be applied in the following way: "vij*l.* therof for sum Juell for the crafte of Cutlers wherin my name may be sett for a remembraunce to be prayed for by the Comminaltie of the same Crafte, and xls. therof to be for a Repaaste to be made to my said company of Cutlers, and the xls. residue to be distributed and disposed amongst the most honest poure people of the said Crafte of Cutlers after the discessions of the said John Wylford and John Eyland." "Repasts" figure somewhat largely in this will, thirteen shillings and four pence



out of a bequest of 20s. to the yeomanry of the Company were devoted to "a repast or Recreacion," and a similar festivity was provided for the testator's fellow parishioners. "Item I woll that myn honest neighbors of the said parishe of seynt Martyn shalbe called to the Taverne called seynt Johns hede on the morow next after my buryall that ys to sey as many of them as there can conueniently assemble, and there they to have a Repaast ordeyned for them, for the whiche Repaast to be made I bequethe xl.s. sterlings. And I desire and hartely pray my seid honest neighbors that after the seyde Repaast shalbe doon that they of ther charityes do say De profundis for my soule and all Cristen soules." Nor was this the only funeral feast. Twenty shillings sterling were set apart for a "Recreacion" to be made within six or eight days after the testator's death to and for his "famyliar frends and lovers—Maister Southworth, Garrard, Hynke, William Chertesey, William Cottyngnam, John Wysshe, and William Darking," with such neighbours and at such place as they should appoint. Other gifts consisted of 10s. apiece to his apprentices, of coal and money to the poor householders of his own parish, of money and bread to hospitals and prisons, and his wife Agnes was intreated to be "lovyng and frendly in disposicion of dedes of charite for the welth of my soule," and also to her husband's poor kinsfolk and familiar acquaintance.

For the  
Yeomanry.

For his  
neighbours.

Charitable  
gifts.

A contemporary of William Heth was Simon Newenton or Newyngton, who in 1494 gave 9s. towards making cushions for Cutlers' Hall. He was Junior Warden in 1482 and 1483, Senior Warden in 1486 and 1487, and Master in 1492-3 and 1498-9. In 1497 William Hertwell appointed him overseer of his will, and left him 10s. (*P. C. C.* 19 Moone.) Twelve years later, 18th June, 1509, Simon in his own will bequeathed a messuage called the Woolsack and certain lands adjacent, forming the important Houndsditch estate, to the Company of Cutlers.

Simon  
Newyngton.

Executes  
Agnes  
Carter's  
bequest.

These had formerly belonged to Agnes Carter, and were made over to the Company on the condition of the observance of a yearly obit on the 7th of June for her soul and the souls of Robert Duk, John Ball, and others. (*Husting Roll* 236, 63.)

Another cutler of the reign of Henry VIII, and the King's own bladesmith, was Marion or Marryn Garret, whose mark, a cinque-foil pierced (*see* illustration, p. 118), was entered in the City books at the same time as that of William Heth. He was a Norman by birth, and the record of his denization is dated 15th May, 1514. (*Letters and Papers, Hen. VIII*, v. 1, 5080.) In 1531 he received from the Privy Purse the sum of 6*l.* 16*d.* in payment for his bill (Nicolas, *Privy Purse Expences of Hen. VIII*, p. 108). His place in the list of 1537 shows that he must have held office. (*See* p. 351.) William Croft, cutler, of the parish of St. Martin Ludgate, left at his death in 1551 sons named John and Lawrence and brothers named John and Robert, to whom no other reference has been found in the records of the Company. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 2, f. 41*d.*) The Master of the Company in 1522 was William Patrick, perhaps descended from the thirteenth century cutlers of that name. (*See* p. 60.)

A fragment surviving from one volume of the perished records of the Company gives the following list of those who attended a meeting of the Court at Cutlers' Hall on 8th April, 1540. There were present Hugh Holmes, Master, Thomas Atkynson and John Gyles, Wardens, John Wylford, John Haryson (who had been Senior Warden in 1522), John Aylain, William Marler, John Hawkyngs, Richard Carter, Thomas Clyff, John Smyth (Master in 1550), and Christopher Alee, whose names all appear in the 1537-8 list of the members of the Company. (*See* pp. 351-2.) One of these, John Aylain, belonged probably to the family of Eyland or Ayland (with its other numerous and perplexing spellings) already well known



in the records of the Company. John Eyland, cutler to the King, took part in 1522 in a settlement of land on another cutler, William Hythe. (*Husting Roll* 239, 4.) The name Hythe is probably a variant of Hethe, certain powers being entrusted to John Eyland by William Heth under his will of 1535. (See p. 206.) Eyland was present on 21st May, 1551, when certain property in Mark Lane was taken into possession, and in 1553 granted rent from property in Watling Street to his fellow cutlers Thomas Atkinson and Richard Carter, apparently on behalf of the Company. Two years later he acquired from John Gregory of Gray's Inn and his wife Anne, a messuage and shops on Ludgate Hill, together with a shop west of the same messuage which he already occupied. (*Husting Roll* 248, 19.) In 1558 he and his wife Alice surrendered to Richard Hylle and William Peterson their right in three messuages and five gardens on Tower Hill. (*Ibid.* 249, 59.) He is perhaps the Common Councilman of the name of Eiland who was elected a governor of Bridewell Hospital in 1566 (*Letter-Book* V, f. 49a), and the Mr. Ayland, cutler, who held a lease of his house in Laurence Pountney Lane under the Drapers' Company in 1571-2. He is probably the John "Iland," who was Master in 1573; the same office had been held by him or by an earlier John Eyland in 1541, and one of the two was Senior Warden in 1550. An Eyland, apprenticed in 1585 to James Short and turned over to Edward Chilton the next year, probably belonged to the younger generation of this family.

John  
Ayland,  
King's  
cutler.

Trustee for  
the Com-  
pany.

A Common  
Councilman.

Richard Carter, whose name also occurs in the above list of 1540, was the Company's Renter in 1547, Warden in 1541, Master in 1548, and member of the Court of Assistants until February, 1563-4. He supplied the Drapers' Company in 1557-8 with swords for the French War at 2s. 8d. "the pece," and was paid 21s. 6d. on two occasions "for the newe dressinge of the swordes daggers skabards chapes and suche lyke thinges."

Richard  
Carter.

William  
Watson.

The Cytyes  
ij pollaxes.

The Drapers also bought swords from William Stower, Michael Hudson, and William Reason ; morris-pikes from Mr. Haselfoote and Mr. Watson ; and pikes and bill-blades from James Tanner, Edmond Bradley, and others. (Johnson, *History*, v. 2, pp. 411-14.) These makers of weapons were probably cutlers and members of the Company ; the Mr. " Watson " above-mentioned was certainly a cutler, and presented the City with two ceremonial weapons (? halberds) some five years later : " 4th February, 1562-3. Item yt was this daye ordered by the Court here that the ij pollaxes latelye yeoven vnto this Cytie by one William Watson Cutler for and in consideracion of his favorable admyssyon into the ffredome of the same Cytie shalbe delyuerd ouer w<sup>th</sup>owt delaye by the Chamberleyn who nowe hathe the custodye of them to my lord Mayre to be vsed by his L. in his howse duryng the tyme of his Offyce of Mayrealtye and then to be delyuerd by his L. by Inventory among other things to his successo<sup>r</sup> & so from hensfurthe yerely from lord mayer to lord maier successively to be vsed as aforesaid as longe as they will endure." (*Rep.* 15, f.  $\frac{184}{186}$ .) Thomas Clyffe, another who took part in the above meeting, was Junior Warden about a year later, and still had a seat on the Court in 1550.

Christopher  
Alee.

More is known of the private history of Christopher Alee. In 1545 he owned two messuages in the parish of St. Bride Fleet Street (*Pleas of Land*, Roll 179, m. 64), in one of which, called the White Lion, he lived. These are probably the two messuages, once belonging to John Atkinson, which Christopher bought from Edmund Deye and his wife Margaret in the April of this year. (*Husting Roll* 244, 32, 33.) A third messuage in the same parish and six in Shoe Lane formed part of his property at his death in or before 1558. (*Inq. p. m. Lond. and Middx.*, v. 1, p. 177.) In 1574 a second inquiry into the tenure of his possessions mentions one of the messuages by the name of " the Dogges head in the Pott " (*Ibid.*, v. 2, p. 187) ; a house

The "Dogges  
head in the  
pott."



with the same name in Watling Street was one of the earliest properties belonging to the Company. It is probable that the surname of Christopher Lee, Senior Warden, 1546-7, is a mistake for Alee. Christopher Alee seems to have had no children by his first wife Agnes nor by his second wife Anne, widow of one Dunkene, to whose daughter Agnes, wife of Simon Southwell, one of his two messuages in Fleet Street passed on Anne's death. (*Husting Roll* 251, 51.) The messuages in Shoe Lane came to his great nephew and heir John Alee (another cutler, and son and heir of Cuthbert Alee, cutler, son of Christopher's brother John), who, with his wife Elizabeth, sold them about 1592. (*Ibid.* 273, 4.)

Nearest to Christopher in blood, however, was George Harrison, cutler (*Inq. p. m. Lond. Middx.*, v. 1, p. 177), probably a kinsman of the John Harrison of 1522 and 1540, of the William and Robert Harrison who were members of the Company in 1537-8 (*see* pp. 351-2), and of the earlier Harrisons (also cutlers) of the fifteenth century. (*See* p. 201.) He may have been the father of Christopher Harison, cutler, who died in 1574 leaving bequests to his brother John and to his apprentice Simon Tuper. George Harrison was Junior Warden in 1558, the year of Christopher Alee's death, and had a seat on the Court of Assistants in February, 1563-4. Christopher's will preserves the name of another cutler, Roger Farren, tenant of his house called the White Hart. Thomas Atkinson, a parishioner of St. Martin Ludgate, who was Senior Warden in 1540 and Master in 1547, died before 5th May, 1558. In his will, proved at that date, after provision for his family, he leaves to Thomas Lynne "my prentyse he seruing out his yeres w' my wif a vice in the Shope and my beste Sawe and a dosen of fyles and Rapes together and a longe pynde hammer w' a flate ende." (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 2, f. 224.) At this date the Senior Warden of the Company was William Hodgeson, who is named

George  
Harrison.

Thomas  
Atkinson.

William  
Hodgeson.

as holding this office in the Charter granted by Philip and Mary, 7th June, 1558. An earlier member of his family was perhaps John Hoggeson, the apprentice of Richard Robertson in 1492-3. William, who was Renter in 1563 and party to a deed concerning the Bell Savage estate in 1569, lived to 1580, his will dated 16th July of that year being proved on the following 12th August. In it, after giving instructions for his burial "in the greene Chriche yarde of the parrishe of Sainte Dunstane in the Weste withoute any Coffyn," he leaves his two houses in Fleet Lane to his wife Elynor for life with remainder to his sons William and Edmond. (*P. C. C.* 31 Arundel.) One of the supervisors of this will was Laurence Hill, another cutler, who took Henry Sibthorp as apprentice in 1585, for which he was fined 12*d.* The following year he glazed a window with his arms in Cutlers' Hall.

His will.

Thomas  
Edlyn.

Another contemporary of Christopher Alee and William Hodgeson was Thomas Edlyn, once the apprentice of Hugh Holmes (Master in 1540), whose widow Anne left all her goods, after payment of debts, to "Thomas Edlyn citizen and cutler of London, sometime my servant, and Joan Edlyn his wife, and their children, to the intent that Thomas and Joan be gentle and Curteis vnto me while I am here lyenge and to gyue me gentill wordes and to see that I lacke nothinge to their power." Edlyn and his wife resided with the testatrix until her death, when she left them the remaining term of the lease of her house. The above will was made on 7th February, 1551-2, and proved on 5th May, 1552; it superseded a previous will of 9th July, 1550. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 2, ff. 52, 53.) The house referred to may have been one on Ludgate Hill, belonging to a John Macell, which Edlyn was occupying as a tenant on 21st October, 1559. (*Inq. p. m. Lond. and Middx.*, v. 1, p. 173.) Edlyn was Senior Warden in 1570-1, and probably became Master. The widow Holmes appointed as

Legatee and  
executor of  
widow  
Holmes.







Mistress Margaret Graythorne  
Widow of John Graythorne.  
a worthy benefactress to this Company. A.D. 1569



her executors Thomas Edlyn and " John Smythe, citizen and cutler, sometime my servant and now Master of the Commonaltie or mystery of Cutlers of London." Smythe was a member of the Company in 1537-8 (*see* p. 351), and present at the Court held in 1540; he was Renter in 1549, and Master in 1550 and 1551. Little is known of John Jerom beyond that he was a member of the Company in 1537-8, an Assistant in September, 1547, and Junior Warden in 1550. To this period also belongs Hugh Porter, cutler, son and heir of another cutler, John Porter, who was a liveryman in 1537-8, Assistant in 1547, and deceased before 1556. In that year Hugh, with his mother and his wife (both named Agnes), surrendered to Thomas Reason, blacksmith, and his wife and son their right in a messuage and shops in Fleet Street, once held by John, and then in the occupation of Thomas. (*Husting Roll* 248, 55.)

John  
Smythe.

John  
Jerom.

Hugh  
Porter.

The records which preserve the memory of John Craythorne, a member of the Company in 1537, Junior Warden in 1548-9, and mentioned as Master in Queen Elizabeth's charter of 1560, throw light also on the history of one of the most interesting of the early possessions of the Company. In December, 1555, John and his wife Margaret bought from Thomas Punchon, of Plumstead, and his wife Katherine a messuage in Fleet Street in the parish of St. Bride, called " le bell Savage," or " le bell Savoy " (*Ibid.* 248, 58), which they leased fourteen months later to John Ricardes for a period of forty years on the condition that it should be always used " as a common Inne and for lodginge of honest gastes." (*Ibid.* 251, 79.) A stable and hayloft, part of the premises, together with free access to the garden, were at the same time reserved for their own use, and set aside for Margaret by her husband in his will of 21st November, 1568. She retained also a life interest in the fee simple of the whole property which was to pass on her death to the Company of Cutlers charged with two conditions. One of these was

John  
Craythorne.

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany of  
Bell Savage  
Inn.

Oxford and  
Cambridge  
exhibitions.

Further  
bequest for  
charities.

Humphrey  
Hide.

William  
Wood.

James  
Clovell.

the expenditure of 10*l.* a year, in quarterly instalments, on coal for distribution amongst the poorest of the parishioners of St. Bride, whilst the other set apart 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* "towards the fyndinge and kepyng of two schollers within the uniuersities of Oxenforde and Cambridge." John also owned property in the parish of Great Bursted, Essex, which he bequeathed to his wife for life, with remainder to James Clovell, citizen and cutler of London, "if he please my said wife," otherwise it was to belong to Margaret and her heirs for ever. The house in Fleet Street, known by "the signe of the Rose," where John lived was also left to the Company on his wife's death. It was charged with two conditions, one the distribution every Christmas of 3*l.* amongst the poor prisoners of Newgate, the King's Bench, the Marshalsea, and the Gatehouse at Westminster, the other the expenditure of 5*l.* upon the wainscoting of the upper part of the Cutlers' Hall. Craythorne's will, dated 21st November, 1568, was proved 20th July, 1569. (*P. C. C.* 16 Sheffield.) His arms were "Argent, an anulett pierced sable, on a chiefe of the seconde 3 piles of the first recontract in point." (*Harl. MS.* 1438, f. 58*b.*) The subsequent history of the Craythorne bequests will be found in a later chapter. Another will of the same year is that of Humphrey Hide, of this Company, who left a wife Elizabeth and a son Peter. (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 3, f. 229*b.*) More than seven years later, 21st December, 1576, was proved the will of another member of the Craft, William Wood, to whom and to his wife John Craythorne had left each a black gown. Among other bequests, William, who had been Senior Warden in 1563 and Master in 1572, left to his "companye of Cutlers for a drinking amongst them 20*s.*" (*P. C. C.* 39 Carew.)

James Clovell did not live to enter on the remainder of the property in Great Bursted which was dependent on the approval of Margaret Craythorne. It seems, however, to have consisted



of the house and lands in Burstede called Outwood, of which James speaks in his will (*P. C. C.* 41 Sainberbe), as given him by his uncle Craythorne, from which we may conclude that Margaret had surrendered her life interest in his favour. He left this and other property, land lately purchased at Sturtford, Herts, and the leaseholds of several houses, one of them "hard above the Bell Savage gate," to his sister Joan. To his "loving Aunt Margaret Craythorne," whom he appointed sole executrix with the direction of his burial, he bequeathed certain goods and chattels and "a peece of grogaraine that I haue in my Chest to make her a gowne withall." A sum of 20s. was to be given to such members of the Yeomanry of the Cutlers as should "beare me companie to my buriall . . . to be bestowed on a drinckinge for them at my funerall."

His bequests.

A "drinckinge" for Yeomanry.

Amongst the earlier contemporaries of John Craythorne, and senior to James Clovell, his nephew by blood or marriage, was John Leycester, a liveryman in 1537-8, Warden in 1547 and 1548, and Master in 1558, when the charter of Philip and Mary was granted. His family was connected with the Company at the close of the fifteenth century, William Leycester having been apprenticed to William Salman in 1496-7, and Robert Leycester to Robert Kimber in 1498-9. Kimber was a purchaser of ivory from the Company in 1468-9. (*See p.* 328.) Other cutlers of the same period are Thomas Buck and Thomas Fereby (named as Wardens in Queen Elizabeth's charter of 1560), Fereby having been a liveryman since 1537-8; John Dylland who gave 20s. towards the cost of the site of Gresham's Burse; Richard Rome, a liveryman in 1537-8, and still living in 1562; and John Stanby and John Spencer, living respectively in 1571 and 1576. (*Husting Rolls* 252, 3; 256, 152; 261, 59.)

John Leycester.

Robert Kimber.

Thomas Buck, Senior Warden in 1559 and probably Master later, whose will bears date 3rd December, 1566, was a man of substance owning lands, messuages, and gardens in Fleet Lane

Thomas Buck.

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany.

(where he lived), Fleet Street, and in the parishes of St. Dunstan in the West and St. Sepulchre without Newgate, and in Egham, Surrey. A life interest in all these was to be enjoyed by his wife Joan, at whose death they were to remain to the Company of Cutlers, charged with certain conditions. These included the provision of annuities for Thomas and John, sons of the testator's late brother John Buck, of Wilberton, and for Henry and Richard, sons of his brother Robert Buck, of the same place. Payments were also to be made by the Company to the poor of Wilberton (especially those of the family of Buck), to Christ's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, and to the church of St. Sepulchre. Of more general interest was an annuity of 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for the maintenance at St. John's College, Cambridge, of a scholar, if possible of the testator's name and kin within the Isle of Ely or elsewhere, otherwise one whose father was free of the Company. A yearly payment of 13*s.* 4*d.* was also to be made by the Cutlers to the Company of Armourers. The provisions of this interesting bequest are more fully dealt with in a later chapter.

Cambridge  
scholarship  
founded.

Richard  
Hawes.

Thomas Buck's will mentions two of his fellow craftsmen. One of these, Richard Hawes, tenant of Buck's messuage in Fleet Street, must have been a young man in 1566. From 1584 to 1587 he served as Renter, was Master in 1590 and 1591, overseer of Richard Mathew's will in 1591, and in 1600 took an apprentice, probably his son, of the name of Hawes. The other, Simon Hatfield, one of the overseers of Thomas Buck's will, Junior Warden in 1573 and probably a descendant of Richard Hatfield of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, was in 1567 trustee for a tenement known by the sign of the "Katheryn Whele," in the parish of St. Sepulchre Newgate. (*Husting Roll* 255, 100.) He seems to have been a parishioner of this church, desiring to be buried in the chancel of Our Lady as near as possible to his own pew. He left to his brethren the Cutlers of London, 20*s.* for a "recreation," by his will dated 10th July,

Simon  
Hatfield.



1576. (*P. C. C.* 19 Carew.) About two years later, 15th November, 1578, a similar bequest was made by his brother Lawrence, in this case, however, coupled with the condition "that they do accompany my body to the church." His will contains bequests to his apprentices, William Roy and Thomas. (*P. C. C.* 1 Bakon.) Lawrence's name appears in Simon's will in connection with an annuity to their mother Joan who was still alive in 1578. To his sons, John and Christopher, Simon left messuages and lands on condition of certain payments to his wife Agnes, and "all my Towlles (tools) as viz. :—ffordge, Sheares, Hammers, Presses, Shelves and all other Towlls belonging to my occupacion." Lawrence Hatfield.

Though this bequest points to the conclusion that both brothers followed their father's calling, no later mention of John occurs. Probably he did not long survive his father, and Christopher carried on the business alone. Christopher was Junior Warden in 1600, but does not seem to have held higher office, though he lived nineteen or twenty years longer, his will (dated 13th May, 1619) being proved on 18th August, 1620. (*P. C. C.* 83 Soame.) He followed his father and uncle in bequeathing money, in this case 3*l.*, to be expended on a funeral banquet. In 1602 his son Henry had been admitted to the freedom of the Company by patrimony. Henry was dead in 1619, having left a daughter Elizabeth, for whom her grandfather made provision; Christopher's other sons, William and Simon, do not figure in the records of the Company. The elder Simon and Lawrence had also a brother, Thomas Hatfield, who was one of the overseers of Lawrence's will (*P. C. C.* 1 Bakon), and is mentioned in the Company's Accounts of 1585 as paying 12*d.* "towards shooting." He, like Christopher, belonged to the parish of St. Sepulchre Newgate, and left instructions for his burial in the church at his pew door. (*P. C. C.* 36 Harrington.) From his will we learn that the three brothers had a Bequest of trade tools.

Christopher Hatfield.

Henry Hatfield.

Thomas Hatfield.

His will.

Bequests to  
the Com-  
pany.

sister Isabel, wife of another cutler, William Percivall, of whom nothing is recorded beyond his assessment at 6s. 8*d.* in 1585 "for the charges of the last Musters." (*Accts.* 1584-1621, pp. 10-12.) Besides the sum of 40s. to provide a repast for those members of the Company of Cutlers who should attend his funeral, Thomas left 6*l.* 13s. 4*d.* to the Master and Wardens "to thintente that thei shall allwaies lende the same to suche of the pooreste state to doe them good freele and w<sup>out</sup> int<sup>e</sup> paienge to haue for twoe yeers." He seems to have left no children at his death, which took place before 11th April, 1592, and as he does not mention Thomas and Agnes the children of his brother Lawrence, it may perhaps be assumed that they died before this time.

William  
Hefford or  
Heyford.

One William Hefford, apprenticed to Christopher Hatfield in 1585, to whom Thomas Hatfield left 10*l.* if living, with the alternative bequest of 4*l.* to his sister Joan in the event of his death, survived to obtain the freedom of the Company in 1592 and open shop in 1595. It is noteworthy in connection with this name that Simon Hatfield had made bequests of 40s. each to William Heyford and his sister Katherine, to the former on the attainment of the age of 24 or the completion of his apprenticeship, to the latter on her marriage or majority. To another apprentice, Thomas Eton, Simon had left 10s. on condition that he should "applie his booke and serue God." (*P. C. C.* 19 Carew.) Another cutler of the sixteenth century, Richard Morley, in 1562 left to the Master and Wardens of his Mistery a sum of 6*l.* 13s. 4*d.* for the use of poor beginners in the craft, the money to be lent to a young freeman for two years to set him up in trade. (*P. C. C.* 31 Strete.) Two other cutlers of this time, Thomas Gibson and Thomas Abday, are only known through the will of the former (proved 23rd June, 1565), who left to "Thomas Abdaye of London, Cutler, my late Master," in payment for loans made by him, some property in Yorkshire.

Richard  
Morley.



(*P. C. C.* 21 Morrison.) Some months earlier, Miles Baylie, a cutler, resident like so many of his craft in the parish of St. Bride Fleet Street, had provided for his burial in that church "at my pue dore." (*P. C. C.* 28 Stevenson.)

The names of William Tedcastell, cutler, and his wife Agnes, survive in the will of Thomas Domela *als* Doumbelow, skinner, who in July, 1564, bequeathed to them and John Dixon three messuages in Mark Lane. (*Husting Roll* 262, 24.) In 1565 William Tedcastell gave 40s. towards the cost of the site of Gresham's Burse, and served as the Company's Renter in 1587. Another contributor (of 20s.) to the Gresham fund was Thomas Malledge, possibly the Thomas Malynger who was one of the Yeomanry in 1537-8 (*see* p. 352); he was Junior Warden in 1563, and seems to have lived in Southwark. In his will, proved 16th March, 1579, he gave instructions for his burial in the church of St. Olave, Southwark, and left 5*l.* each to the parishes of St. Magnus, London Bridge, and St. Olave, as marriage portions of poor maidens, parishioners thereof, at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* each maiden. He bequeathed to the "Cumpany of Cutilers in London a Nest of ffrench Booles (bowls) of Sylver parcell gilt with their lether cases," and five marks for a dinner or recreation after his burial. It does not appear that his son Thomas, to whom he left only 40*s.*, followed his father's calling. More ample provision was made for a nephew, John Malledge *als.* Brown son of the testator's sister Agnes Brown, 50*l.* being left in trust for him, whilst a moiety of the residue of the elder Thomas's personal goods was to be delivered to him after he had served the remainder of his apprenticeship to the widow Ellen. (*P. C. C.* 11 Holney.) In 1571 Francis Soyrenoye, cutler, was tenant of a newly-built house in Blackfriars, the property of Richard Onslow. (*Inq. p. m. Lond. and Middx.*, v. 2, p. 139.) Contemporary with him were Richard Awsten, Junior Warden in 1572 and Senior Warden in 1573, and another

William  
Tedcastell.

Thomas  
Malledge.

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany.

Edward  
Johnes or  
Jones.

cutler, Edward Johnes *als.* Jones, who acquired two messuages in the parish of St. Mary Aldermanbury in 1569 (*Husting Roll* 256, 62) which he left, with a tenement called Doddes in Chigwell, Essex, to his wife Elizabeth. In his will of 17th October, 1576, enrolled on 31st May, 1578, Johnes mentions his mother Margaret and a brother-in-law Richard Coulson, to whom he leaves 2*l.* at the end of his apprenticeship. (*Ibid.* 262, 21.) Of Richard Burton nothing more is known than that he was Junior Warden in 1570, an office held by Edmund Ellis six years later. The burial of Richard son of Richard Ellis, cutler, on 30th June, 1578, was followed the next day by that of his father (*Bur. Reg. of St. Helen's Bishopsgate*), who may possibly be the Richard Ellis who was Junior Warden in 1522.

Lawrence  
Greene.

Another cutler prominent in the second half of the sixteenth century was Lawrence Greene, Master in 1563 and 1570, and in 1565 donor of 40*s.* to the cost of the site of Gresham's Burse. In 1564 he acted as executor of a fellow cutler Myles Wilson who left to his son William "a whele and two vices" (*Archdeacon of London's Registry*, Reg. 3, f. 96*b*), and in 1569 he was party to a deed concerning the Bell Savage estate. (*Transcript of Charters*, p. 99.) In his own will, made in 1580, Lawrence left 40*s.* to the Cutlers' Company on condition of their attendance at his funeral. Amongst his charitable bequests were 6*d.* to the poor people of St. Magnus on the day of his burial and 4*l.* to St. Thomas's Hospital. (*P. C. C.* 8 Darcy.) His landed property included tenements in Thrumms Alley in the parish of St. Margaret, Lothbury, acquired in January, 1572-3. (*Husting Roll* 258, 27.) The rest of his estate, in Bread Street, Blackman Street, Southwark, and in Lincolnshire, he left to his wife Margaret on condition of her finding for his three sons, Lawrence, Thomas, and John, "meate dryncke and other necessaryes vntill theie shalbe preferred to some prefermente in the vniuersities or otherwise yf she so long lyve."

His will.



Of the same family, probably, as Lawrence, but his junior in years, was Thomas Greene who served as Warden in 1584-5, and was Master in 1594-5 and 1595-6. The relationship between the two is not clear, though the prevalence of the same Christian names in their families may be taken as evidence of its existence. Thomas, however, was not a Londoner by birth, but a native of Naverstock in Essex. He seems to have amassed considerable wealth by his trade, and before his death in 1616 or 1617 he had bought the manor of Boys Hall in his native town, besides messuages and lands in Essex and Bedfordshire. His will contains many legacies to children kinsfolk and friends, and a number of charitable bequests, amongst which was a gift of loan money to the Company. From the fact that he left 40s. apiece to Lawrence and Thomas Greene, "my late wyves bretheren," it would appear that he married a daughter of the elder Lawrence Greene, two of whose sons bore these Christian names. (See p. 220.) Like Lawrence, Thomas had three sons named John, Lawrence and Thomas, all of whom survived him. Of his own brothers, William, Reginald and Robert, the second may possibly be identified with another leading cutler of this time, Reginald or Reynold Greene, Junior Warden in 1598-9 and 1599-1600, Senior Warden in 1602-3 and 1603-4, and Master in 1611-12 and 1612-13. Reynold, to whom Lawrence Greene, grocer, sold half a messuage in the parish of St. Stephen, Walbrook, between 1596 and 1600 (*Husting Roll* 280, 19), died in 1624 leaving amongst other children a son James. He mentions in his will the children of his late brothers William and Edward Greene, and a brother Lawrence. (*P. C. C.* 95 Byrde.) Jeremiah Greene, who filled the offices both of Junior and Senior Warden in 1664 and was Master in 1666, may have represented one of the various branches of this family in a later generation.

Thomas  
Greene.

A native of  
Naverstock.

Gift to the  
Company.

Reynold  
Greene.

A contemporary of the earlier Greenes, William Collinson, came from Godley in Leicestershire and owned landed property

William  
Collinson.

in Staffordshire. He lived in "Gracious" Street, in the parish of Allhallows, Lombard Street, and left 50s. to the Livery of the Cutlers' Company for a funeral supper. (*P. C. C.* 31 Weldon.)

Richard  
Atkinson.

More definite were the bequests of Richard Atkinson, who was an Assistant in February, 1563-4 and Master in 1576, Roger Knowlls, then Senior Warden, became Master (perhaps for a second time) in 1584. Richard Atkinson was probably a kinsman of Thomas Atkinson. (*See* p. 211.) By his will of 28th April, 1582, proved 25th May, 1583, the Master, Wardens and Company of the Cutlers received 3*l.* "to make them and their wyves a recreacion or dyner drinckinge," and 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* "to be lent from time to time to a freeman of the Company." (*P. C. C.* 29 Rowe.) His wife Isabel was to enjoy a life interest in her husband's dwelling-house in Fleet Street called the Cross Keys, and in another near it in Pepinioye (? Poppingay) Alley. Both were to descend at her death to her husband's godson, Richard Pluckett, son of his fellow craftsman, Oliver Pluckett, on condition of certain payments to William and Thomas Atkinson, the latter of whom was apprenticed to the testator, presumably his kinsman. Another apprentice was William Lyne to whom Richard Atkinson excused two of the remaining years of his apprenticeship on condition of faithful service to the widow Isabel for the rest of his term. After Isabel's death 20*s.* from the yearly rent of the two messuages were to be devoted to the purchase of bread for the poor of St. Bride's parish on St. Thomas's day. Among the witnesses of the will were Hugh Warman, cutler, and Robert Atkinson of Skipton-upon-Craven, yeoman, the testator's brother.

Bequests to  
the Com-  
pany.

Richard  
Mathew.

Richard Mathew, who belongs to the close of our present period, was a notable cutler in his day. In 1562-3 he made and presented to the City a Sword of State which is still possessed by the Corporation. "11th January, 1562-3. Item this day Richard Mathue cytyzen & cutler of this Cyty of his owne

A sword  
gevin to y<sup>e</sup>  
Cyty by  
Mathue.



francke harte & good will y<sup>t</sup> he hath & berethe towards this Cyty dyd here present vnto this Court a very fayer & goodly sword well & workmenly wrought & gylded & a scaberd of crymsyn velvet for y<sup>e</sup> same very well garnisshed & trymed w<sup>ch</sup> he gave frely to y<sup>e</sup> Cyty desiringe onely y<sup>e</sup> reasonable favor of this Court in suche his honest sutes as he by eny iust occasion shall hereafter have cause to make to y<sup>e</sup> same & nothing els." (*Rep.* 15, f.  $\frac{1}{8}\frac{6}{8}$ .) Mathew's sword is used as the Sword of Justice, and is thus described by Sir W. St. John Hope: "The Old Bailey sword is constantly fixed over the judge's seat in the Central Criminal Court at the Old Bailey. Its blade is of no great antiquity, but the pommel and quillons, which are of copper-gilt and handsomely wrought, belong to the sixteenth century, and very possibly to the sword given to the City by Richard Matthew, citizen and cutler, in 1563. The scabbard is covered with purple velvet, and retains its original six lockets and chape of copper-gilt with intermediate devices of recent date." He contributed 20s. to the site of Gresham's Burse in 1565, was party to a deed concerning the Bell Savage estate in June, 1569 (*Transcript of Charters*, p. 99), and trustee in a settlement made the next month. (*Husting Roll* 255, 161.) In 1569-70 he received payment from the Drapers' Company for 10 swords and 10 daggers at the rate of 7s. the sword and dagger.

Now the  
Old Bailey  
Sword.

Mathew again showed his love for the City in 1580 by a gift of knives for use at the Lord Mayor's table: "13th October, 1580. Item this daie Richarde Mathewe Cutler did of his owne free will geve vnto the Lorde Maior, Aldremen and Comynaltye of this citie two faire table knyves and two karving knyves of yron and steele, to be vsed in the howse of the Lord Mayor of the same cittie for the tyme beinge. Whiche saide knyves weare presentlye deliuered to the Custodye of the Chambreleine of the sayd Cytye." (*Rep.* 20, f. 124b.) His proficiency in

Rychard  
Mathewe  
gave iiij  
knyves to  
the state of  
the Cyttye.

His reputation as a cutler.

Obtains a monopoly.

Cuttlers byll for reformation of Swords daggers &c.

his craft is attested by Stow, who, unacquainted with the fine work of London cutlers before his own day, gives him the following extravagant praise : “ Knives for hundreds of Years (past all memory) were made in this Kingdom, but coarse and uncomely. But in King James the First his time, the best and finest Knives in the World were made in London. Richard Matthew at Fleetbridge was the first Englishman that attained to the Skill of making fine Knives and Knife-hafts ; and 5 Elizabeth he obtained a Prohibition against all Strangers and others, from bringing any Knives into England from beyond Seas : which until that time were brought in by Ship loads from Flanders, and other Places. The same Richard Matthew, about the middle of Queen Elizabeth’s Reign, got a Privilege from her Majesty under her Great Seal, for the making of Knives and Daggers with a new kind of Hafts. But this was complained to have been, and further would be, the Decay and Overthrow of the whole Company of Cutlers within the City, besides their Wives, Children and Apprentices ; and the Prices of Knives and Daggers excessively enhaunced, prejudicial to the Queen’s Subjects.” (*Survey of London*, 1720, Bk. 5, p. 211.)

Matthew must have filled the highest offices in the Company (perhaps more than once) before 1584 when the records again begin. As Warden in 1557–8 he presented a petition on behalf of the Cutlers’ Company for a reformation in the wearing of long swords, rapiers, and daggers. The entry in the City records runs as follows:—“ Jovis xiiij<sup>cio</sup> die ffebruarij Anno Domini 157(7) Annoque xx<sup>mo</sup> Elizabeth Regine. Item this daye vpon the readinge of the supplycacon exhibetyd vnto this Co<sup>te</sup> by Rychard Mathewe Warden of the Company of the Cutlers of this Cytie, yt was orderyd by the same Co<sup>te</sup> that yt shall and maye be lawfull for the sayd Mathewe or any of his Company to make humble sute vnto the lords and others of her Ma<sup>ties</sup> most honorable pryvie Councell for a generall



reformacon to be had and taken agaynste the wearynge of longe swords rapyers and daggers w<sup>th</sup> the lyke pykes in bucklers accordinge to the lawfull requeste mencyoned in the sayd byll." (*Repertory* 19, f. 291<sup>1</sup>). In 1584 he took Thomas Beckwith as apprentice. He was Master in 1585-6, 1588-9, and 1589-90, and died before 10th February, 1590-1. From his will, made 14th May, 1590, and proved 18th February, 1590-1 (*P. C. C.* 15 Harrington), it seems that his dwelling-house at Fleet Bridge, probably the messuage in the parish of St. Bride "late of the Bakers' Mistery," which he had acquired in 1551 (*Husting Roll* 247, 17), was of very considerable value. He gave instructions for its sale and the division of the proceeds into six parts. Five of these were appropriated to his sons Nathaniel, Paul and Richard, and his unmarried daughters Susan and Anne, whilst the other sixth was to provide certain legacies of which the sum total amounted to about 65*l*. Like so many of his fellows, Richard Mathew made a bequest to his Company, the sum in this case being 4*l*. which he wished to be spent amongst them in remembrance of him.

Three times  
Master.

Bequest to  
the Com-  
pany.









## EVIDENCES.

ILLUSTRATING, FROM ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, THE FOREGOING  
CHAPTERS.





# EVIDENCES.

## ILLUSTRATING CHAPTERS I TO V.

NOTE.—*Abbreviations which are not extended are denoted either by an apostrophe or a full-point.*

### I. DEED, WITH SEAL, OF RICHARD, SON OF ROBERT LE CNIFSMITH. (Temp. Hen. III, 1216-1272.)

(A facsimile of this deed faces p. 53.)

Sciant presentes & futuri quod Ego Ricardus filius Roberti fabri concessi & presenti carta mea confirmaui domino Ade de Basinghes Ciui London' & heredibus suis uel eius assignatis totam terram illam cum pertinentibus in parochia sancti Egidii leprosororum quam ipse tenet de Herewardo le Megucer & de ysabell de spreiton, & omne ius meum & clamium quod habui uel quod habere potui in perpetuum sine omni clamio & impedimento mei & heredum meorum. Ita quod Ego nec heredes mei nec aliquis per nos uel pro nobis in tota dicta terra cum pertinentibus nichil debemus nec poterimus aliquo iure exigere uel aliquid venditare in perpetuum. Pro qua nostra concessione & confirmacione dictus Adam dedit michi & dicte ysabelle duas marcas argenti. In cuius rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum apposui. Hiis testibus Willielmo de Kancia, Jacobo ad nouum redditum, Roberto de purtepol, Radulffo Clonche, Willielmo dispensario, Willielmo de Leicestr' & aliis.

*Endorsed* :—le confermement Richart le fiz Robert le Cnifsmith de la terre vers seint Gilin. (*Ancient Deeds*, B. 2387.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Be it known to all men now and to come that I Richard the son of Robert the smith have granted and by my present charter have confirmed to "Sir" Adam de Basinghes citizen of London and to his heirs or his assigns all that land with appurtenances in the parish of St. Giles of the Lepers which he holds of Hereward le Megucer and Ysabell de Spreiton, and all my right and claim which I had or might have had for ever without any claim and hindrance of me and of my heirs. So that neither I nor my heirs nor any one through us or on our behalf in all the said land with appurtenances own aught nor can by any right demand or sell aught for ever. For which our grant and confirmation the said

Adam has given to me and to the said Ysabell two silver marks. In testimony whereof to the present writing I have affixed (my) seal. These being witnesses William de Kent, James at the New Rent, Robert de Purtepol, Ralph Clonche, William the Dispenser, William de Leicester, and others.

*Endorsed.*—The confirmation (by) Richard the son of Robert the Knifsmith of the land at St. Giles.

## II. WILLIAM DE LAUFARE'S GUARDIANSHIP OF ROBERT DEUMARS. 1290-1.

Die sabbati proximo post festum Sancti Gregorii Anno regni regis Edwardi decimo octauo Willelmus de Laufare cotiler qui Custodiam habuit Roberti Deumars filii Roberti Deumars per Maiorem et Aldermannos Ciuitatis Lond' qui pro tempore fuerunt anno regni dicti regis Edwardi sexto venit coram dominis Johanne de Banquell' Aldermanno Willelmo de Bettoyn' tunc Camerario Gyhall' Lond' et Aldermanno et aliis ibidem tunc presentibus et reddidit compotum de ix li. vjs. viiij. receptis in argento et de xiijs. annui Redditus exeuntis de quadam domo in eadem Ciuitate. Et omnibus misis et custibus predicti Roberti et domus predictae factis computat' et allocacio respondit de xx li. de claro ad opus predicti Roberti. Que quidem xx li. ex consensu predictorum auditorum et Cristiane matris dicti Roberti et aliorum amicorum suorum remanent in custodia dicti Willelmi de Laufare. Ita quod eas in vsus et commodum predicti Roberti faciat et ponat vbi et quando ad hoc requisit' fuerit. Et inde idem Willelmus profert securitatem videlicet . . . (*Letter-Book A*, f. 54 b.)

Die martis proximo ante festum Pent' anno regni Regis Edwardi decimo nono Robertus de Sutton' admissus in custodiam Roberti filii Johannis (*sic*) Deumars Cristiana Deumars mater predicti Roberti ac alij amici dicti Roberti venerunt coram R de Sandwyco tunc Custode Lond' Johanne de Cant' Johanne le Blunt et Willelmo de Betoynne tunc Camerario Gyhald' Lond' et cognouerunt quod de redditibus et aliis bonis et catallis dicti Roberti Deumars traditis in custodiam Willelmi de Laufare Cotellar' Lond' et de appruamento eorundem computarunt cum predicto Willelmo et omnibus computatis et inter eos allocatis remanserunt in custodia predicti Willelmi de claro quadraginta et due libre sterl' in denarr' Cotellar' prout idem Willelmus et alij amici predicti Roberti cognouerunt de quibus adm' Willelmus tenetur respondere ad Regtiam etatem predicti Roberti etc. et de appruamento eorundem. Et sciend' est quod omnia scripta et alia monumenta prius inter eos facta tunc temporis fuerunt adnichilata et cancellata de consensu partium predictarum etc. et aliorum amicorum predicti Roberti etc. et concesserunt quod omnia prius facta tam in recognicionibus quam placitis ac aliis irrotulamentis Inana essent et vacua cuiusmodi condiciones fuerunt etc. (*Ibid.* f. 84.)



TRANSLATION.

On Sunday next after the Feast of St. Gregory in the eighteenth year of the reign of King Edward (I.) William de Laufare, cotiler, who in the sixth year of the reign of the said King had the guardianship of Robert Deumars the son of Robert Deumars (granted him) by the then Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, came before Sirs John de Banquell, Alderman, William de Bettoyne then Chamberlain of the Guildhall of London and Alderman, and others there and then present, and rendered an account of 9*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* received in money and of 13*s.* of annual rent issuing from a certain house in the same City. And after discharging all payments and expenses of the aforesaid Robert and of the aforesaid house, an account and statement was rendered of 20*l.* clear to the use of the aforesaid Robert. The which 20*l.*, with the consent of the aforesaid auditors and of Cristiana the mother of the said Robert and of other of his friends, remain in the charge of the said William de Laufare, in order that he may expend and put them to the use and profit of the aforesaid Robert, where and when it shall be thereunto required. And hereupon the same William offers security, namely . . .

On Tuesday next before the Feast of Pentecost in the nineteenth year of the reign of King Edward, Robert de Sutton, admitted to the guardianship of Robert the son of John Deumars, Cristiana the mother of the aforesaid Robert, and other friends of the said Robert, came before Ralph de Sandwich then Warden of London, John of Kent, John le Blunt, and William de Betoynne then Chamberlain of the Guildhall of London, and acknowledged that as touching the rents and other goods and chattels of the said Robert Deumars delivered into the custody of William de Laufare, cutler of London, and the increase of the same, they had entered into an account with the aforesaid William and everything having been reckoned up and allowed between them, there remained clear in the custody of the aforesaid William forty-two pounds sterling in money of the Cutlers, as the same William and other friends of the aforesaid Robert acknowledged, for which and for the increase of the same the said William is bound to account at the coming of age of the aforesaid Robert. And be it known that all writings and other records made between them before the present time were made void and cancelled by the consent of the parties aforesaid etc. and of other friends of the aforesaid Robert, etc., and they agreed that all former proceedings, as well by recognisances as by pleas and other enrolments, should be void and of none effect, of what kind soever were the conditions etc.

### III. PETITION OF THE CUTLERS TO THE KING AND HIS COUNCIL.

(Undated. Late Edward I or Edward II.)

[*This document is in bad condition, and in parts illegible.*]

Seek freedom  
for self-rule.

A nostre seignour le roy & son counsail monstrent le bonez gentz del Mester de Cutelrie de Loundres & prient qils pussent auoir lour fraunchise sicom les autres mesters de mesme la Cite onnte issint qe nul mester ne se medle de eaux ne a lour miester mes qils pussent estre reules de certeynes gentz de mesme la myster qe soient loiaux & couenables a nostre seignour le Roy & a tut la pople issint qe si nul aliene ou autre viegne on mesme la cite ou fause Cotelrie sicom auant ses houres ount fait & fount de iour en autre en graunt preiudise del dit myester & damage au Roy & desceite a tot la pople qils pussent estre redressez de mesme ceaux gentz certeynes & loaux du dit miester & lour fause cotelrie estre forfaitez si pour tiels soient attaintz.

No stranger to  
sell false ware.

City cutlers  
also forbidden.

Auxint prient le bon gentz du dit miester qe si eaux ou nul de eaux facent ou face fause cotelrie en dessait del peple du Roialme qils pussent estre atteintz par mesmes ceaux gentz esleux del dit miester soient forfaites & qils pussent estre iugez par certaines gentz de mesme la mester si qe leur fraunchise ne seyt blemuz.

Similar powers  
sought over  
other towns.

Auxint prient les ditz gentz qils pussent auoyr mesme la fraunchise en chescon Cite & burgh pour ceo qe lez (gentz) del mester oueront prisement en diuers viles du roialme Cite & burgh (sanz mesfaire) delz gentz du dit mestier de Loundres pour quel chose . . . les bones gentz demourantz en Loundres grauntement esclanderie. Purquay ils prient sil vous plaise qe ils pussent iustiser ceaux . . . auxiben en chascun vile del roialme com en loundres . . . pusse estre . . . par s . . si qe nul soyt medle ou (anoye) si qe ils pussons seruir loalment nostre seignour le Roy & tut la roialme.

The King's  
decision.

Endorsed. Soit fait ceo quest demande par ceste peticion en Loundres . . . le meyre sauue de ceo qe touche or & argent la quele chose ait fait par les orfeveres & ceux du mestier deins escrit par lavisement du dit meire. Et quant as autres bones villes Dengleterre le Roi fera ordeiner en meisme la maniere. (*Ancient Petitions*, file 260, no. 12975.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Seek freedom  
for self-rule.

To our lord the King and his Council show the good people of the Mistery of Cutlery of London and pray that they may have their franchise as the other crafts of the same City have, so that no craft meddle with them or their trade, but that they may be ruled by certain people of the same Mistery such as are loyal and amenable to our lord the King and to all the people, so that if any foreigner or



other come within the same city with false Cutlery, as before these times they have done and do from day to day, to the great prejudice of the said Mistery and damage to the King and deceit of all the people, that they may be corrected by those same certain and loyal people of the said Mistery and their false cutlery be forfeited if for such they be convicted.

No stranger to  
sell false ware.

The good people of the said Mistery also pray that if they or any one of them make or makes false cutlery in deceit of the people of the Realm, they may be convicted by those same people elected from the said Mistery, (and their false cutlery) may be forfeited, and they may be judged by certain people of the same Mistery so that their franchise be not blamed.

City cutlers  
also forbidden.

The said people also pray that they may have the same franchise in every City and borough in order that the people of the trade shall have apprizement in divers towns of the Realm, City, and borough, (without hurt) to the people of the said craft of London for which thing . . . . the good people living in London (have suffered) great dishonour. Wherefore they pray, if it please you, that they may punish those . . . . as well in each town of the Realm as in London, so that none may be interfered with or annoyed, but that they may loyally serve our lord the King and all the Realm.

Similar powers  
sought over  
other towns.

Endorsed. Let there be done in London what is asked by this petition . . . . the Mayor; save that which concerns gold and silver, the which article has been made by the goldsmiths and those of the trade within written by the advice of the said Mayor. And as to the other good towns of England the King will make ordinance in the same manner.

The King's  
decision.

#### IV. CORRODY FROM THE ABBOT AND CONVENT OF WESTMINSTER TO ADAM DE MASSCHEBURY, CUTLER, AND HIS WIFE ISABEL.

(Monday after St. Bartholomew's Day, 1319.)

Pateat vniuersis per presentes quod nos Willielmus Curtlyngton permissione diuina Abbas West. et eiusdem loci Couent' ex vnanimi assensu Capituli nostri dedimus et concessimus Ade de Maschebery et Isabelle vxori sue tres albos panes Conuentuales et duos Gazones ceruisie Conuentualis ad totam vitam vtriusque tantum singulis diebus de Celario Conuentus nostri percipiend'. Concedimus tamen eisdem ex gracia nostra speciali quod dictos panes et ceruisiam semel in Ebdomeda vel bis si voluerint pro ipsa Ebdomada percipiant London seu alibi pro libito sue voluntatis libere deferendos. Et cum contigerit vnum ipsorum in fata decedere alter qui superstes fuerit ipsos panes et ceruisiam ad vitam ipsius plenarie percipiat. In cuius rei testimonium Sigillum Commune capituli nostri vna cum

Sigillis dictorum Ade et Isabelle huic scripto Indentato alternatim sunt appensa. Dat' in Capitulo nostro Westm. die lune proxima post festum Sancti Bartholomei Apostoli Anno Regni Regis Edwardi fil. Regis Edwardi Tertio decimo. (*Westm. Abbey Records*, Deed No. 5911.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Be it manifest to all by these presents that we William Curtlyngton, by Divine permission Abbot of Westminster, and the Convent of the same place have, with the unanimous assent of our Chapter, given and granted to Adam de Maschebery and Isabel his wife three white Convent loaves and two gallons of Convent ale, for the whole life of each of them only, to be received every day from the Cellarer of our Convent. We have also of our special favour granted to the same that they may receive the said loaves and ale once a week, or twice in the week if they wish, either in London or elsewhere to be freely delivered at their will and pleasure. And when it shall chance that one of them depart this life, the other who survives shall receive the loaves and ale in full for his life. In witness whereof the common seal of our Chapter, together with the seals of the said Adam and Isabel, have been interchangeably attached to this writing of indenture. Given in our Chapter at Westminster, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle (24th August), in the thirteenth year of the reign of King Edward the son of King Edward (1319).

#### V. ORDINANCE FOR THE SHEATHERS OF LONDON.

(Tuesday after 12th March, 1326-7.)

Quedam  
Ordinacio pro  
Vaginariis  
London.  
John Brond's  
Petition.

None to work  
at night.

Nor on Sun-  
days or Feasts.

None to em-  
ploy another's  
workmen.

Memorandum quod die Martis proximo post festum sancti Gregorij pape anno regni Regis Edwardi tercij post Conquestum primo venit Johannes Brond Schether & in pleno Hustengo de communibus placitis sursum liberauit Hamoni de Chigwell tenenti locum Ricardi de Beton' Maioris London' quandam billam cuius tenor sequitur . . . hec verba Au Meire & ala bone Commune de Loundr' monstrent les bones gentz del office de Shatheres pour le profit de la Citee & du people enp'ant pour commun profit que les pointz apres escrites lour soient grauntez & affermez atenir durant le mester Premierement que nuly qui vit del dit Mester ne oeure de nuyt ne ne veille pour oureir en le dit Mester nulautre Item que nuly qui soit del dit Mester ou pour le temp auanir seerra ne oeure en le Mester iours de dymeynge ne des grauntz festes cest assauoir des Apostles Martirs ne Confessours q' especialement sont atenir par ordinance de seint eglise. Item que nuly qui soit del dit Mester ne recette ne resceyue en son seruice autri seruant ne autre vallet tant com il demoert ou ad premerment fait couenant a son mestre ademorer tant que son terme soit accompli ou qil eyt fait le gre son mestre a son departir ou deuant sont departir



Item qe nuly del dit Mester ne resceiue en le Mester nul estraunge pour oureir en le office sil ne puisse trouer suffisante seurte destre bon & leal al dit Mester & ala Citee ou qil soit fait fraunk de la Citee et enfraunchi Ceux pointz auantditz prient les auantditz bones gentz que lour soient grauntez & affermez pour commun profit & entrez en la Gyhalde atener en la fourme auantdite car les oeures que sont fait nulautre ne sont pas si profitables ne si bones come ceux que sont faitz de iours sous la peyne que serra s. . . ordene par bones gentz de descrecon. Et est la peyne tele que est ordene que si nul del dit Mester soit trouueuenant les ditz articles & de ceo soit atteint deuant le Maire ou les viscontes : a la premiere foitz soit amercie a xl.d. & si autre foitz soit atteint : soit amercie a dj. mar. & a la tierce foitz foriure le Mester. Quibus quidem articulis in dicta billa contentis visis auditis & intellectis concordatum est quod maiores & meliores de Mestero de Shetheres in singulis partibus Ciuitatis premuniantur quod sint hic ad diem Lune proximum venturum ac certificandum Maiorem si istam Billam prosecui velint quia predictus Johannes solus fuit quando billam liberauit ad quem diem venerunt per summonicionem predictus Johannes & Simon Brond Galfridus Le Shethere Johannes Moton Rogerus de Kent Willielmus Bock Thomas de Hyde Willielmus Pykeman Walterus de Pomfreyt Ricardus de Ware Robertus de Marchamstede Simon May Ricardus Le Wylde Willielmus Le Tableter Dicun de Essex Willielmus of the veste & Johannes de Southwerk in pleno Hustengo de placitis terre & supplicarunt Maiori & Aldermannis ac toti curie quod pro communi vtilitate tam populi quam hominum de dicto Mestero articuli infrascripti obseruarentur et concessum est eis tam pro se quam pro omnibus alijs de dicto Mestero et super hoc per assensum Maioris & Curie ad eorum rogatum electi sunt predicti Simon Brond Johannes Brond Rogerus de Kent Johannes Motun & Galfridus Le Shethere & iurati sunt quod custodiri facient articulos infrascriptos et omnes prescripti tam pro se quam pro alijs de illo Mestero concesserunt g'ntant' amerciari in forma predicta si articulos predictos in aliquo contrauenerint &c. (*Pleas and Memoranda*, Roll A1, No. viii.)

Strange workmen to find sureties.

Night work unprofitable. Penalties for disobedience.

Petition considered by the Aldermen. Rulers of the Mistery to attend.

They support the Petition.

Ordinance approved.

Rulers sworn to keep its Articles.

#### TRANSLATION.

Be it remembered that on Tuesday next after the Feast of Saint Gregory the Pope, in the first year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the Conquest, there came John Brond, Sheather, and in full Husting of Common Pleas presented to Hamo de Chigwell *locum tenens* of Richard de Beton Mayor of London a certain petition, the tenor whereof follows in these words. To the Mayor and the good Commons of London the good folks of the trade of Sheathers submit that, for the profit of the City and of the people, as well as for their common profit, the points after-written may be granted to them, and affirmed to be held throughout the Mistery. First that no one who lives by the said trade shall work by night nor oblige another to work by night in the said trade. Also that no one who is of the

A certain ordinance for the Sheathers of London.

John Brond's Petition.

None to work at night.

Nor on Sundays or Feasts.

None to employ another's workmen.

Strange workmen to find sureties.

Night work unprofitable.

Penalties for disobedience.

Petition considered by the Aldermen.

Rulers of the Mistery to attend.

They support the Petition.

Ordinance approved.

Rulers sworn to keep its Articles.

said trade, or shall be in time to come, work in the trade on Sundays or the great Festivals, that is to say of the Apostles, Martyrs, or Confessors, that are especially to be observed by order of Holy Church. Also that no one who is of the said trade accept or receive into his service another man's servant or another's employé whilst he remains, or has previously made agreement to remain with his master, until his term is completed, or he has gained the consent of his master at his departure or before his departure. Also that no one of the said Mistery shall receive into the Mistery any foreigner to work in the trade, unless he can find sufficient surety to be good and loyal to the said Mistery and to the City, or that he be made free of the City and enfranchised. The aforesaid good folks pray that these points aforesaid may be granted to them and affirmed for the common profit and entered in the Guildhall to be held in form aforesaid, for work that is done by night is not so profitable or so good as that which is done by day, under the penalty that shall be . . . ordained by good folks of discretion. And the penalty is such as is ordained that if any of the said Mistery be a contravener of the said articles and thereof be convicted before the Mayor or the Sheriffs: at the first time let him be fined xl d., and if he be convicted a second time let him be fined half a mark, and at the third time to forswear the Mistery.

The which articles contained in the said petition having been seen, heard, and understood, it was agreed that the more important and influential men of the Mistery of Sheathers in each part of the City be summoned to be here on Monday next and to certify the Mayor whether they wish to follow up that petition; as the aforesaid John was alone when he presented the petition. On the which day there came by summons the aforesaid John and Simon Brond, Geoffrey Le Shethere, John Moton, Roger de Kent, William Bock, Thomas de Hyde, William Pykeman, Walter de Pomfreyt, Richard de Ware, Robert de Marchamstede, Simon May, Richard Le Wylde, William Le Tableter, Dicun de Essex, William of the veste, and John de Southwerk, in full Husting of pleas of land, and besought the Mayor and Aldermen and the whole Court that for the common weal as well of the people as of the men of the said trade the articles within-written might be observed, and it was granted them, as well for themselves as for all others of the said Mistery. And thereupon by assent of the Mayor and Court at their request the aforesaid Simon Brond, John Brond, Roger de Kent, John Motun, and Geoffrey Le Shethere were elected and sworn to cause the within-written articles to be kept, and all the men above-written, both for themselves and for the others of that Mistery, consented . . . to be fined in form aforesaid if they should in any respect offend against the aforesaid articles.



## VI. ARTICLES OF THE CUTLERS.

(Friday after 29th August, 1344, 18 Edward III.)

Memorandum quod die veneris proximo post festum Decollacionis Sancti Johannis Bapt' anno predicto xviii<sup>o</sup> articuli subscripti lecti fuerunt coram Johanne Hamond Maiore Rogero de Depham Johanne de Causton & alijs Alderm' et quia competentes acceptati & intrati in hec uerba. A de primes qe certeyne persones del Cotelrie seonnt eslutz par lauvys de Meire Aldermans & par lassent des Cotelers issint qils cherchent & facent lassay de tote manere de cotelrie que troueronnt en mesonns & hors des mesonns tannt en mayns des ouerours com en mayns des marchauntz saunz esp'uir aucun riche ou pouere. Et que auxi souent come ils troueronnt aucune fauxe oueraigne tochaunt le dit mester qils facent prendre & porter deuaunt le Meire & Aldermans de la dite Citee & illoeqes estre aiugge solonc ceo que troue sera issint que la faussete de ses faux ouerours & des marchauntz qe les vendent en decite du poeple puisse estre defait & anyenti solonc la discrecion des ditz Maire & Alderm'. Et celui que ent sera atteint pay a la primer foitz a la Chaumbr' de la Gihall de Loundres xl d a la secounde foitz dj' marc a la tierce foitz x s & a la quatre foitz foriurgge le Mester. Item qe Mestre ne gardeyn del dit Mester mayntiegne nully de quel condicion qil soit en son tort countre les gentz del dit Mester p' quey ils peussent en aucun point estre empeirez ou endamagiez sous peyne a payer dj' marc a la dite Chaumbre auxi souent com aucun ent sera atteint. Item que nul Cotelier ne face nule commune vent p' dimenges p' ceo que lour Lowytz & lour Apprentitz onnt degastez & loynez lez biens de leurs Mestres tannt come onnt este a lour eglises parochials ou ayllours. Item que nul ne pregne apprentitz a meyns que a terme de vij annz. Item que nul Cotiller ne tiegne shope ne apprentitz resceiue sil ne soit fraunk de la Citee. Item que toutz yceux del dit Mester qu ne voillent estre iustizez par les gardeyns de le dit Mester que seronnt pour le temps deschoses tochauntz le dit Mester que les nouns dyceux seonnt presentez au Meire & as Aldermans & illoeqes iusticez de tort ou de fauxme qils onnt fait et sils soient atteintz payent a la Chaumbre dj' marc. Item totes les articles q' sonnt ore ordinetz tochauntz le dit Mester seient affermez en tiele manere qils ne soient autre foitz dedits. Item p' ceo que plusours oueraignes tochauntz le dit Mester que onnt este faites de nuyt ne onnt pas este couenables ne profitables pour le commun poeple come y dussent estre p' ceo qils ne feurent pas assayetz par les gardeyns del dit Mester come ils deussent & onnt estee enuoietz priuement a uendre en diuers counteez du Roialme & en deceite & damage del commun poeple & en preiudice & esclaundre des gentz del dit Mester soit ordine & graunte que desormes chescun oueraigne tochaunt le dit Mester soit fait de iour & ne pas de nuyt, issint que les gardeyns del dit Mester ent puissent couenablement faire lassay auaunt qil soit mys a la vente sous peyne de dj' marc a

Searchers to be elected.

Penalties for false work.

Wardens not to support offenders.

Sunday trading forbidden.

Apprentices and Freedom.

Right of appeal granted.

These articles to remain firm.

Night work forbidden.

Enticing  
apprentices  
forbidden.

paier a la dite Chaumbre. Item que nul del Mester ne receiue autri apprentitz ne autri lowyz en preiudice nen damage de son Mestre taunqe son terme soit pleynement acompli sous peyne a paier a la dite Chaumbre auxi souent com ile ent sera atteint dj' marc.

Overseers  
elected.

Et super hoc Galfridus de Gedeleston, Ricardus Baldewyn, Johannes de Trillowe, Johannes de Lauuare, Ricardus<sup>1</sup> de Toppesfeld, Johannes de flete, Johannes de Gaunt, Johannes atte Watre, Johannes atte Watre iunior, electi fuerunt & Jurati ad superuidend' & custodiend' Articulos predictos &c.

New  
Overseers  
elected.

Quia omnes prescripti Custodes articulorum predictorum mortui sunt die veneris proximo ante festum Sancti Martini anno xxiiij<sup>o</sup> loco predictorum mortuorum electi fuerunt per homines de dicto Mestero Johannes de Hertepol, Robertus Godwyn, Willielmus de Spaldyng, Johannes de Haukeshale, Johannes Porre, & Simon atte Nax, ad custodiend' articulos suprascriptos. (*Letter-Book F*, f. 90b.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Searchers to  
be elected.

Be it remembered, that on Friday next after the Feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist (29 August), in the eighteenth year aforesaid, the Articles underwritten were read before John Hamond, Mayor, Roger de Depham, John de Caustone, and other Aldermen; and, since they were befitting, were accepted and entered, in these words:

Penalties for  
false work.

In the first place, that certain persons of the (trade of) Cutlery shall be chosen by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen, and by assent of the Cutlers, that so they may search and make assay of all manner of cutlery that they shall find, both in houses and out of houses, as well in the hands of workmen as in the hands of dealers, without sparing any person, rich or poor. And that so often as they shall find any false work, touching the said trade, they shall cause the same to be taken, and brought before the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City, and there adjudged upon, according as shall be found; that so the falseness of the false workmen and of the dealers who sell such things, in deceit of the people, may be detected and defeated, according to the discretion of the said Mayor and Aldermen. And he who shall be convicted thereof, shall pay, the first time, to the Chamber of the Guildhall of London forty pence, the second time half a mark, the third time ten shillings, and the fourth time he shall forswear the trade. Also, that no Master or Warden of the said trade shall maintain any person, of whatsoever condition he may be, wrongfully against the folks of the said trade, whereby they may be in any point injured or damnified, on pain of paying half a mark to the Chamber, so often as he shall be convicted thereof. Also, that no cutler shall make any common sale on Sundays; since their journeymen and their apprentices have wasted and purloined the property of their masters, while they have been at their parish churches,

Wardens not  
to support  
offenders.

Sunday  
trading  
forbidden.

<sup>1</sup> Name crossed through in original.



or elsewhere. Also, that no one shall take an apprentice for a less term than seven years. Also, that no cutler shall keep a shop, or receive an apprentice, if he be not free of the City. Also, that as to all those of the said trade who do not wish to be judged by the Wardens of the said trade for the time being, upon matters touching the said trade, the names of such shall be presented to the Mayor and to the Aldermen, and there they shall be judged as to the wrong or falsity which they have committed; and, if they be convicted, let them pay to the Chamber half a mark. Also, all the Articles which are now ordained touching the said trade, shall be confirmed in such manner that they cannot another time be contradicted. Also, whereas many pieces of work, touching the said trade, which have been made by night, have not been convenient or profitable to the common people, as they should be, since they have not been assayed by the Wardens of the said trade, as they ought to be; and (such work) has been sent privily to sell in divers Counties of the realm, in deceit, and to the loss, of the common people, and to the prejudice and scandal of the folks of the said trade; be it ordained and granted, that from henceforth every work touching the said trade shall be made by day, and not at night; that so, the Wardens of the said trade may conveniently make assay thereof before it be set for sale; under penalty of half a mark, to be paid to the said Chamber. Also, that no one of the trade shall receive the apprentice or journeyman of another, in prejudice, or to the loss, of his master, until his term shall be fully accomplished; on pain of paying to the said Chamber, so often as he shall be convicted thereof, half a mark.	Apprentices and Freedom.  Right of appeal granted.  These articles to remain firm.  Night work forbidden.
	Enticing apprentices forbidden.

And thereupon Geoffrey de Gedeleston, Richard Baldewyn, John de Trillowe, John de Lauvare, Richard de Toppesfeld, John de Flete, John de Gaunt, John atte Watre, and John atte Watre, junior, were elected and sworn to supervise and keep the articles aforesaid.	Overseers elected.
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Forasmuch as all the before written Guardians of the articles aforesaid were dead, there were elected by the men of the said Mistery on Friday before the Feast of St. Martin (11 Nov.) in the twenty-third year (of Edward III, A.D. 1349), in the place of the aforesaid deceased, John de Hertepol, Robert Godwyn, William de Spaldyng, John de Haukeshale, John Porre, and Simon atte Nax, to keep the articles above written.	New Overseers elected.
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VII. ARTICLES OF THE FURBOURS.

(Monday after 29th June, 1350, 24 Edward III.)

Ceux sont les pointz & ordinauncez queux les bones gentz ffourbours de la Citee de Loundres demandent a auoir & tenir fermes & estables as toux iours en honor & sauucioun de lour Mistier & a graunt profit de la Commune du Roialme. Adeprimes que nul forein de cel Mistier ne teigne shope ne cel Mestier ne vse ne	Les Articles des ffourbours.  No stranger to trade, unless a freeman.
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<p>Wardens to approve admissions to Freedom.</p> <p>Penalty for enticing apprentices.</p> <p>And for not enrolling them.</p>	<p>vende ne achate sil ne soit fraunk homme de la Citee. Item que nul de cel Mistier ne soit resceu en la ffraunchise de la dite Citee sanz lassent des gardeyns de mesme le Mistier iurez ou de la greinde (<i>sic</i>) partie de eux eiant regarde que nule persone couenable destre ffraunkt soit destourbe par malice. Item que nul de cel mistier ne p'igne ne procure autri seruant hors du seruice son mestre taunt come il est tenuz par couenant de luy seruir s' peine de xl s. al oepe de la Chaumbre si de ceo deuant Meire &amp; Audermans soit atteynt par gentz du dit mistier. Item si aucun del dit mistier ne resceu vn apprentiz pour lui seruir a terme de vij anz ou plus'st ne lui face enrourler en la Chaumbre de deinz le premer an du terme entre le mestre &amp; lui acorde par escrite entre eux fait que le mestre perd'e sa ffraunchise tanqil auera de nouel reachate par lassent des gardeins de son mistier.</p>
<p>Untried workmen not to be employed.</p>	<p>Item que nul du dit mistier ne p'igne nul manere oeure a oeurerir de aucun graunt seign' ne dautre sil ne soit homme parfit &amp; homme sachant son mistier par testmoignaunce des bones (gentz) de mesme le mestier pour perils que pourrout auenir as seign' de la terre &amp; as autres gentz de pople par cause de fauce oueraigne &amp; en graunt esclaunder des gentz du dit mistier. Item si nul del dit mistier soit troue oueraunte fauce oueraigne soit attache par les gardeyns du dit mistier oue mesme cele fauce oueraigne &amp; amesne deuant les Meire &amp; Audermans &amp; deuant eux soit aiugge cele oueraigne pour tiel come il sera troue par serment des gentz du dit mistier &amp; louerour soit punuy solonc la descresoeun des ditz Meire &amp; Audermans.</p>
<p>False work to be seized.</p>	<p>Item que nul du dit mistier ne face ne soeffre estre fait en son hostel pomels ne hiltres desespoies sils ne soient de bon feor &amp; astor &amp; que les escanbers soient faitz des bones peaus de veel &amp; si nul soit troue fesant le contraire qil perde cel fauce oeure &amp; soit puny solonc le descrescioun des Meire &amp; Audermans.</p>
<p>Good steel to be used for sword pomels and hilts.</p>	<p>Item que nul du dit mistier ne face reparailier ne refaire espoie de brusee par couetise ou soubtilite en deseite du pople sur la peine auantdit.</p>
<p>Broken swords not to be repaired.</p> <p>Examination of foreign workmen.</p>	<p>Item si nul homme estraunge du dit mistier viegne en la Citee a demeurer en y cele que nul de mesme le mistier ne lui resceiue pour ouerir sil ne soit examine deuant les Meire &amp; Audermans &amp; conn quil soit bon ouerour par gentz de mesme le mistier.</p>

<p>Articles approved.</p> <p>Overseers appointed.</p>	<p>Et recreatis articulis predictis coram Waltero Turk Maiore &amp; Aldermannis die lune proximo post festum Apostolorum Petri &amp; Pauli anno xxiiij predicti articuli acceptati fuerunt. Galfridus de Melton, Edwardus Thorburn, Willielmus de Leycestre, Nicholaus de Wyllesthorpe, Stephanus de Beddeford, jurati ad custodiend' articulos predictos. (<i>Letter-Book F</i>, f. 184 b.)</p>
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#### TRANSLATION.

<p>Articles of the Fourbours (or Furbishers).</p>	<p>These are the points and Ordinances which the good folks, the Fourbours of the City of London, ask to have and to hold firm and established for ever, to the honour and safeguard of their trade, and to the great profit of the community</p>
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of the realm. First. That no stranger of this trade shall keep shop or follow the trade, or sell or buy, if he be not a freeman of the City. Also. That no one of this trade shall be admitted to the freedom of the said City without the assent of the sworn Wardens of the same trade, or of the greater part of them, regard being had that no person who is eligible to be free shall by malice be kept out. Also. That no one of this trade shall take or entice another's servant away from the service of his master, whilst he is bound by covenant to serve him ; under the penalty of 40s. to the use of the Chamber, if he shall be thereof convicted before the Mayor and Aldermen by the folks of the said trade. Also. If any one of the said trade shall have received an apprentice to serve him for a term of seven years or more, and shall not cause him to be enrolled in the Chamber within the first year of the term between the master and him agreed upon, by writing between them made ; the master shall lose his freedom, until he shall have bought it anew by the assent of the Wardens of his trade. Also. That no one of the said trade shall take any manner of work for working at, from any great lord or other person, if he be not a man perfect and a man knowing his trade by the testimony of the good (folks) of the same trade ; by reason of the perils which might befall the lords of the land and other folks of the people because of false workmanship, and to the great scandal of the folks of the said trade. Also. If any one of the said trade shall be found making false work, let him be arrested by the Wardens of the said trade, together with the same false work, and brought before the Mayor and Aldermen ; and before them let such work be adjudged to be such as it shall be found to be, by the oath of the folks of the said trade ; and let the maker be punished at the discretion of the said Mayor and Aldermen. Also. That no one of the said trade shall make in his house, or allow to be made, pommels or hilts of swords, if they be not of good iron and steel, and the scabbards be made of good calf-leather ; and if any one shall be found doing the contrary, let him lose such false work, and be punished at the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen. Also. That no one of the said trade shall cause a broken sword to be repaired or made up again, by greed or subtlety, to the deceit of the people, under the penalty aforesaid. Also. That if any strange man of the said trade shall come into the City, to dwell therein, no one of the same trade shall receive him to work, if he be not examined before the Mayor and Aldermen, and it be known that he is a good workman by the folks of the same trade.

No stranger to trade, unless a freeman.  
Wardens to approve admissions to Freedom.  
Penalty for enticing apprentices.

And for not enrolling them.

Untried workmen not to be employed.

False work to be seized.

Good steel to be used for sword pommels and hilts.

Broken swords not to be repaired.

Examination of foreign workmen.

And the aforesaid Articles having been rehearsed before Walter Turk, Mayor, and the Aldermen, on Monday next after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul in the 24th year, the Articles aforesaid were accepted. Geoffrey de Melton, Edward Thorburn, William de Leicester, Nicholas de Wyllesthorne, and Stephen de Beddeford were sworn to keep the aforesaid Articles.

Articles approved.

Overseers appointed.

VIII. EARLY OVERSEERS, WARDENS, OR RULERS OF THE  
MISTERY OF CUTLERS BEFORE ITS INCORPORATION IN 1416.

NOTE.—*The references within brackets are to the Letter-Books (Calendar).*

- 1328-9. Ralph de Flete, William atte Gate, John de Pelham, Geoffrey de  
Gedelestone, Bartholomew le Coteler, Robert de Ponte, John atte  
Nasshe.

Elected and sworn for the government and instruction of the Mistery.  
(E. p. 233.)

- |       |              |                       |                   |
|-------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1340. | Monday after | Geoffrey le Cotiller  | Richard Baldwyne  |
|       | 25 Nov.      | William atte Gate     | John atte Watre   |
|       |              | Richard de Toppesfeld | John de Gaunt     |
|       |              | John de Laufare       | John de Thrillowe |

Sworn to safeguard everything belonging to the Craft. (F. p. 57.)

- |       |              |                         |                        |
|-------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1344. | Friday after | Geoffrey de Gedelestone | John de Flete          |
|       | 29 Aug.      | Richard Baldewyn        | John de Gaunt          |
|       |              | John de Trillowe        | John atte Watre        |
|       |              | John de Lauvare         | John atte Watre junior |
|       |              | Richard de Toppesfeld   |                        |

Elected to supervise and keep the "Articles" of the same date. (F. p. 110.)

- |       |               |                     |                    |
|-------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1349. | Friday before | John de Hertelpol   | John de Haukeshale |
|       | 11 Nov.       | Robert Godwyn       | John Porre         |
|       |               | William de Spaldyng | Simon atte Nax     |

Elected as supervisors of the "Articles" of 1344, in place of the foregoing  
who were dead. (F. 110.)

- |       |               |                 |                  |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1372. | Friday before | Nicholas Michel | John Twyford     |
|       | 6 Nov.        | Thomas Ermelyn  | Nicholas Horwode |

Elected and sworn to govern the Mistery. (G. p. 294 b.)

- |       |          |                     |             |                    |
|-------|----------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1375. | 31 Oct.  | Richard Goudchyld   | (H. p. 13)  | Simon atte Nax     |
|       |          | Richard Shirebourne |             | John de Lenne      |
| 1377. | 16 Nov.  | Simon atte Nax      | (H. p. 76)  | Richard Shirbourne |
|       |          | William Stane       |             | Richard Pulle      |
| 1379. | 16 July. | John Salle          | (H. p. 132) | Walter Kyntone     |
|       |          | William de Kave     |             | Martin Godard      |
| 1380. | 13 June. | Robert Austyn       | (H. p. 133) | Richard Pol        |
|       |          | William Latham      |             | Nicholas Stonpet   |
| 1381. | 3 Oct.   | Edmund Wodhille     | (H. p. 170) | William Stanes     |
|       |          | Richard Dyne        |             | Thomas Northward   |



1382.	18 June.	Adam Fermer		John Twyford
		Richard Jarkevile	(H. p. 171)	Richard Sandwelle
1383.	28 May.	Walter Kyntone		Robert Austyn
		Thomas Ermyn (Ermelyn)	(H. p. 202)	John Huwet
1384.	22 June.	Edmund Wodhulle		Richard Pulle
		John Byle	(H. p. 222)	Richard Knettere
1385.	20 Sept.	Martin Godard		Robert Austyn
		Richard Dyne	(H. p. 273)	Thomas Kirtone
1389.	28 July.	Richard Twyford		Robert Austyn
		Richard Pull	(H. p. 346)	Matthew ( <i>sic</i> ) Godard
1390 (?).		Richard Waltham		Martin Godard
		Robert Austyn	(H. p. 356)	John Byle
1392.	9 Aug.	Edmund Wodehulle		Richard Dyne
		William Latham	(H. p. 388)	John Hyde
1393.	25 June	Robert Austyn		Richard Dyne
		Martin Godard	(H. p. 397)	Richard Twyford
1394.	7 June.	Richard Pulle		Richard Twyford
		Walter Kyntone	(H. p. 403)	Thomas Ermelyn
1415.	1 July.	John Parker	Thomas Kyngtone	John Swalwe
Sworn to rule the Mistery well and truly. (I. p. 150.)				

## IX. LIST OF THE MASTERS AND WARDENS OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY.

From its Incorporation in 1416 to 1576.

NOTE.—The tenure of office was biennial from about the middle of the fifteenth century and perhaps earlier, and so continued for nearly two hundred years. The names supplied in italics, though not found in the Company's records, are probably and for the most part correct. *The references within brackets are to the Letter-Books.*

YEAR.	MASTER.	WARDENS.	
1416	Richard Wellom	Martin Godard	John Chadde
1417	Richard Wellom	Martin Godard	John Chadde
1417 to 1420	John Chadde	Martin Godard	William Graunger
	John Munt	John Parker	Peter Tomere

The above persons served as Masters and Wardens between 1417 and Oct. 1420, but their exact precedence in office cannot be determined. (I. pp. 249-250.)

1420	21 Oct.	William Multone	Richard Hatfield	John Whestowe
(I. p. 250.)				

YEAR.	MASTER.	WARDENS.
1428	10 Dec. William Broun	John Newenton Thomas Belgrave
	Sworn Wardens (K. pp. 93-4).	
1433	John Newenton	John Howys Walter Brightwalton
	<i>(Husting Roll 162, 25, 26, 42, 43.)</i>	
	<i>(alias Northwold)</i>	
1441	27 June Richard Asser	John Marchall John Amell
	Sworn Wardens (K. p. 256).	

The following names, from 1442 to 1498, are taken chiefly from the Accounts of the Master and Wardens; a few are from charters, deeds, and other sources. The year indicates the date of election, which was at Trinitytide.

1442	William Broun	William Brynkley	John Parker
1443	William Broun	William Brynkley	John Parker
1444	Thomas Trylle	Thomas Otehyll	Thomas Hamond
1445	<i>Thomas Trylle</i>	<i>Thomas Otehyll</i>	<i>Thomas Hamond</i>
1449	William Broun	John Catour	<i>James Begeraunt</i>
1450	William Broun	John Catour	James Begeraunt
1451	<i>Thomas Trille</i>	<i>John Amell</i>	<i>John Roos</i>
1452	Thomas Trille	John Amell	John Roos
1453	William Brynknell	Robert Pykmere	John Fordham
1454	<i>William Brynknell</i>	<i>Robert Pykmere</i>	<i>John Fordham</i>
1455	<i>Thomas Otehill</i>	<i>William Smyth</i>	<i>John Balle</i>
1456	Thomas Otehill	William Smyth	John Balle
1457	<i>John Catour</i>	<i>William Gydour</i>	<i>John Walton</i>
1458	John Catour	William Gydour	John Walton
1459	John Amell	John Fordham	Thomas Pope
1460	<i>John Amell</i>	<i>John Fordham</i>	<i>Thomas Pope</i>
1461	William Brynknell	Thomas Barret	Henry Penhargair
1462	William Brynknell	Thomas Barret	Henry Penhargair
1463	<i>John Wakeman</i>	<i>John Vale</i>	<i>William Seton</i>
1464	John Wakeman	John Vale	William Seton
1465	John Catour	Thomas Pope	John Touker
1467	John Deye	William Haydone	John Robert
1468	Robert Pykmere	John Walton	John Aleyn
1469	Robert Pykmere	John Walton	John Aleyn
1470	William Seton	William Worthyngbrigge	William Vale
1471	William Seton	William Worthyngbrigge	William Vale
1472	Henry Penharger	John Ball	Ralph Wodecok
1473	Henry Penharger	John Balle	Rauff Wodecok
1474	John Dey	John Towker	William Bromfeld



YEAR.	MASTER.	WARDENS.	
1475	John Dey	John Towker	William Bromfeld
1476	Robert Pykmere	William Vale	William Hertwell
1477	Robert Pykmere	William Vale	William Hertwell
1478	William Seton	John Walton	Rauf Wodecok
1479	William Seton	John Walton	Rauf Wodecok
1480	William Vale	William Hertwell	John a Chamber
1481	William Vale	William Hertwell	John Chamber
1482	<i>Robert Pykmere</i>	<i>Thomas Chamberleyn</i>	<i>Symon Newyngton</i>
1483	Robert Pykmere	Thomas Chamberleyn	Symon Newyngton
1484	William Seton	John Walton	Edmond Manning
1485	William Seton	John Walton	Edmond Manning
1486	William Vale	Symon Newyngton	Thomas Chamberleyn
1487	<i>William Vale</i>	<i>Symon Newyngton</i>	<i>Thomas Chamberleyn</i>
1488	<i>William Hertwell</i>	<i>John Chamber</i>	<i>Edmond Manning</i>
1489	William Hertwell	John Chamber	Edmond Manning
1490	<i>William Vale</i>	<i>Thomas Chamberleyn</i>	<i>John Robyns</i>
1491	William Vale	Thomas Chamberleyn	John Robyns
1492	Symon Newenton	Thomas Pykmere	Robert Vynsent
1493	Simon Newenton	Thomas Pykmere	Robert Vynsent
1494	William Hartwell	Robert Vynsent	John Spannsby
1495	<i>William Hartwell</i>	<i>Robert Vynsent</i>	<i>John Spannsby</i>
1496	William Seton	Thomas Chamberleyn	Thomas Pykmere
1497	William Seton	Thomas Chamberleyn	Thomas Pykmere
1498	Symon Newyngton	John Wylford	William Wall
1499	<i>Symon Newyngton</i>	<i>John Wylford</i>	<i>William Wall</i>

There is a break in the Accounts here for 85 years. The scanty material for filling up the gap in the list has been obtained from old leases and other ancient deeds. The year given is that of the deed ; it does not therefore coincide with the beginning of the year of office.

1522	July	William Patrick	John Harryson	Richard Ellis
1540	April	Hugh Holmes	Thomas Atkynson	John Gyles
1541	Nov.	John Ayland	Richard Carter	Thomas Clyff
1547	Sept.	Thomas Atkynson	Christopher Lee	John Leycester
1548-9	Mar.	Richard Carter	John Leycester	John Craythorn
1550	Oct.	John Smyth	John Eylande	John Jerom
1551-2	7 Feb.	John Smyth		
1558	7 June	John Leycester	William Hodgeson	George Harrison
1559	Nov.	John Craythorne	Thomas Buck	Thomas Ferebie

YEAR.		MASTER.		WARDENS.
1563-4	Feb.	Laurans Grene	William Wood	Thomas Malyge
1571	April	Laurauns Greene	Thomas Edlen	Roger Burston
1572		William Wood	Richard Vale	Richard Awsten
1573	Nov.	John Iland	Richard Awsten	Symon Hatfeilde
1576	7 July	Richard Atkinson	Roger Knolls	Edmond Ellys

The continuous list from 1584 onwards is printed in a later volume.

#### X. RULERS OF THE MISTERY OF SHEATHERS, 1326-1441.

NOTE.—*The references within brackets are to the Letter-Books, except where otherwise stated.*

1326-7	Tuesday after	Simon Brond	John Motun
	12 Mar.	John Brond	Geoffrey le Shethere
		Roger de Kent	

Elected and sworn to enforce the Ordinances. (*Pleas and Memoranda Roll* A1, no. viii.)

1348	Friday after	Stephen de Excestre	Richard Brond
	20 Nov.	John Fichet	Robert Deverous
		John de Ely	Robert Petlyngge

Sworn to keep the Articles of the Mistery and to supervise all workers thereof. (F, p. 186.)

1349	Friday before	Walter de Rychemond	(F, p. 197.)	Peter de Berdefeld
	20 Nov.	Richard Warde		John de Shirbourn
1375	Thursday after	Thomas Rose	(H, p. 13.)	Bernard Rayner
	24 June.	Thomas Baysham		John Leche
1377	11 Aug.	John Kent	(H, p. 63.)	Nicholas Castelle
		Richard Trumpetone		Simon Wermestone
1378	4 Nov.	John Andrew	Thomas Kendale. (H, p. 96.)	
1379	1 Dec.	John Rasene	Thomas Bonne. (H, p. 133.)	
1380	10 Dec.	Bernard Reyner	Richard Trumpyngtone. (H, p. 152.)	
1381	9 Dec.	Richard Warde	John Kent (H, p. 170.)	
1382-3	8 Jan.	John Andre	Simon Shethere	John Ryelee. (H, p. 202.)
1383-4	13 Jan.	John Rasyn	Robert Pountfreit	John Leche (H, p. 221.)
1384-5	23 Jan.	William Solyngtone	Richard Warde	Richard Trumpyngtone (H, p. 250.)
1385-6	15 Jan.	Thomas Rose	William Man	John Kent. (H, p. 274.)
1392	18 May	Simon Wormetone	Henry Richemond. (H, p. 388.)	
1393	20 June	Thomas Man	John Rychemond (H, p. 397.)	



1394-5	12 Jan.	William Man	Richard Trumpyngtone	(H, p. 416.)
1416	5 Oct.	John Rasyn	John Richemond.	(I, p. 153.)
1417	22 Sept.	William Gilbert	Thomas Silkirke.	(I, p. 173.)
1418	4 Oct.	John Audery	William Squyer.	(I, p. 207.)
1425	4 Oct.	William Gilbert	Ralph Sandone.	(K, p. 52.)
1427	2 Oct.	William Gilberd	Ralph Sandoll.	(K, p. 77.)
1438	12 Oct.	John Richemond	Henry Gately.	(K, p. 222.)
1439	18 Sept.	William Pays	John Clerk.	(K, p. 232.)
1441	27 June	John Clerk	William Pais.	(K, p. 256.)

## XI. RULERS OF THE MISTERY OF BLADESMITHS, 1376-1491.

NOTE.—*The first nine references are to the Letter-Books.*

1376	30 Aug.	John Neuby	John Kent
		John Meire	John Brykles
		William Albon	John Marcham
Sworn as Masters of Bladesmiths and Blacksmiths. (H, p. 45.)			
1376	Tuesd. after 8 Sept.	Robert Roderam	Thomas Pynnok. (H, p. 45.)
1416	4 Sept.	Richard Ryngwode	John Leyne. (I, p. 144.)
1417	31 Aug.	Richard Elyot	Walter Smyth. (I, p. 173.)
1424	29 Aug.	John Layner	John Golyght. (K, p. 30.)
1425	30 Aug.	Thomas Racton	William Lister. (K, p. 43.)
1428	26 Aug.	John Leyne	John Parys. (K, p. 78.)
1439	27 Aug.	John Chambre	William Hoberd. (K, p. 232.)
1441	29 Aug.	John Layner	William Huberd. (K, p. 256.)
1488	3 Sept.	John Cope	John Dober. ( <i>Journal</i> 9, f. 322.)
1489	28 Aug.	Richard Wilcokks	Thomas Swayn. ( <i>Journal</i> 9, f. 311b.)
1490-1	14 Mar.	Thomas Harrison	<i>loco</i> Richard Wilcocks dec. ( <i>Journal</i> 9, f. 303b.)

## XII. PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEDIENCE TO MISTERIES.

(1364.)

Item ordeyne est que touz les mestiers de la Cite de loundres soient loialment reules & gouernes chescun en sa nature en due manere issint que nule faucyne ne fauce ouereygne ne deceyte soient troueez en nule manere des dytz mestiers pur honor des bones gentz du ditz mestiers & pour comune profit du poeple que de chescun mestier soyent elieux & iureez quatre oue sitz ou plus ou moyns solonc ceo que les mestier bosinera les queix gentz issint esleux & iures eyent pleyn power du meire de ceo bien & loialment feire & parfourmer. Et si asqun

De pena  
ordinata de  
illis qui sunt  
rebell' mestero  
suo.

des ditz mestiers soit rebel contrariant ou desstourbant quils ne poent lour office duement parfourmer et de ceo soit ateynt qil demoura al primer foytz en prison par x iours & paiera a la comonaltie pur le contempt x s & al secunde foytz demoura en prison par xx iours & paiera a la comonaltie xx s & al tierce foytz demoura en prison par xxx iours & paiera al comonaltie xxx s & al quatre foytz demoura en prisoun par xl iours & paiera al comonaltie xl s. (*Letter-Book* G, f. 135b.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Of the punishment ordained for those who are rebellious against their Mystery.

Also it is ordained that all the Misteries of the City of London be truly ruled and governed, each in its degree in due manner, so that no falseness, no false work, nor deceit, be found in any manner in the said Misteries; for the honour of the good folk of the said Misteries, and for the common profit of the people. And that from each Mystery there be chosen and sworn four or six, or more or less according as the Mystery shall need; which persons so chosen and sworn shall have full power from the Mayor well and truly to do and perform the same. And if any person of the said Misteries shall be rebellious, contradictory, or disturbing, that so such persons may not duly perform their office, and shall thereof be attainted, he shall remain in prison, the first time, ten days, and shall pay to the Commonalty ten shillings for such contempt; and the second time, he shall remain in prison twenty days, and shall pay twenty shillings to the Commonalty; and the third time, he shall remain in prison thirty days, and shall pay thirty shillings to the Commonalty; and the fourth time, he shall remain in prison forty days, and shall pay forty shillings to the Commonalty.

### XIII. KING'S WRIT FOR MARKING SWORDS, KNIVES AND OTHER WEAPONS.

(26th June, 1365, 39 Edward III.)

Breve pro  
ffabris  
gladiorum &  
cultellorum &  
aliorum  
armorum de  
signis suis.

Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie & Aquitanie dilectis sibi Maiori & Vicecomitibus London salutem. Quia volumus quod ffabri gladiorum & cultellorum & aliorum armorum in Ciuitate nostra london certa signa sua super omnibus operacionibus suis ponant quod eedem operaciones dictis signis signate coram Maiore Vicecomitibus & Aldermannis London in Gildehalla nostra Ciuitatis predictae vt cuiuslibet operacio per eius signum cognosci valeat ostendat' & quod si predicti ffabri aliquas operaciones dictis signis suis non consignetis vendiderint ijdem ffabri operaciones huiusmodi vel eorum pertin' nobis forisfaciant vobis mandamus quod premissa omnia & singula in Ciuitate predicta & suburbijs eiusdem vbi expedire videritis publice proclamari & teneri fac' in forma predicta & omnes operaciones fabrorum predictorum dictis signis non consignatos quos in Ciuitate &



Suburbijis predictis per ipsos ffabros venditos vel vendicacioni expositos inueneritis tanquam nobis forisfactos in manum nostram capi & seisiri & nobis inde responderi fac'. Teste me ipso apud Westm' xxvj die Jun' anno regni nostri tricesimo nono. (*Letter-Book G, f. 158b.*)

TRANSLATION.

Edward by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland and Aquitaine to his beloved Mayor and Sheriffs of London greeting. Forasmuch as we desire that makers of swords and knives and other arms in our City of London shall put their true marks upon all their work that the same work marked with the said marks may appear before the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen in the Guildhall of our City aforesaid and the work of every one may be known by his mark, and that if the aforesaid makers put to sale any work not marked with their said marks the same makers shall forfeit to us such works or their value, we command you that ye cause all and singular the premises to be publicly proclaimed and observed in form aforesaid where ye shall see fit in the aforesaid City and in the suburbs of the same, and cause to be taken and seized as forfeited to us into our hand all works of the aforesaid makers not marked with the said marks which ye shall find sold or exposed for sale by those makers in the City and suburbs aforesaid, and make account thereof to us. Witness myself at Westminster the twenty-sixth day of June in the thirty-ninth year of our reign.

Writ for makers of swords, knives, and other arms, concerning their marks.

XIV. ORDINANCES OF THE FRATERNITY OF THE MISTERY OF CUTLERS. A.D. 1370.

(Facsimile faces p. 15.)

(En lon)or de notre sieur ihu. Crist & de sa douce Mier & de toutz seyntz ascuns des bons gentz du Mistier de Cotellers de loundres ont comoncez vn ffraternitie entre eux en sustenance de deux Tapers pour ard . . . [yma]ge notre dame en lesglise del Annunciacion notre dame appelle le Charterhous ioust Smythfeld lan du grace mil ccc lxx.

Fraternity founded.

Primerment ordeigne est que chescun que soit entre en la dite ffraternitie soit de bon fame & de couenable port. Et que nul que soit entre en la dite ffraternitie ne vse en le dit Cite ne dehors querant ffoliez coutels medles ne nul autre ryot en esclandre les bons gentz de la dite ffraternitie p' la quel ryot ou coutel il soit batu naufre ou en ascun manere de ffolie ou endamage estoise a son folie & a son d . . . de mesme sanz nul recouerer ou nul answere de nul du dite ffraternitie auoir. Et si nul isoit q' sur luy voudra pleindre soit il attache sanz nul socour en mainprise de nul du dite ffraternitie auoir tanq' la ley de la terre pour luy ad passe.

Brethren to be of good report and bearing.

Not quarrelsome or contentious.

Item que chescun du dite ffraternitie assemblera en certain place limite par les meistres qui seront pour le temps chescun quartre del an cestassauoir le second

Quarterly assemblies.

Two lights  
kept in  
Charterhouse.

dymenge apres le fyn de chescun quatre p. . . son quartrage cestassauoir vj d en mayntenance & sustenance des ditz ij Tapers pour enlumere en lesglise del Annunciacon notre dame suisdit sous peyne dune lb de Cier mesq' il soit maladie ou hors de ville.

Annual  
assembly in  
liveries.

Item accorde est entre les confrers du dite ffraternitie qils assembleront chescun an en le dit esglise del Annunciacion notre dame vestuz dune Suyte del liuere des Cotes ou autre vestuz en le ffest del Annunciacion pour oier vn messe de mesme le ffest & pour offer a dit Messe chescun deux j d en lonour de Jhu. Crist & de notre dame seynt Marie & de toutz seyntz & puis apres pour assembler en vn certain (place) limite pour manger & boyer a semble cestassauoir le premier dymenge apres la Trinitie a quel assemble ils eslurent deux bonz gentz & loialx du dite ffraternitie pour cuiller & garder l'argent pour les ditz Tapers & pour acchater leur vesture pour cotes ou autre vesture pour lan proschein ensuant.

To hear Mass.

Election feast  
at Trinity.

Attendance at  
funerals.

Item accorde est que les ditz ij bons gentz ferront del remaunt del argent q' remaynt des ditz ij Tapers iiij Torchez & v Tapers rondes issint que si nul du dit ffraternitie devie ou sa feme auera les ditz iiij torchez & v tapers a leur enterrement al Placebo & Dirige & a v messes. Et que chescun du dite ffraternitie serra illeogs' entour lenterement de cestuy qui est mort en sa vesture du dit ffraternitie en la veyle al dirige & en le iour pour offer a les v messes auant ditz. Et si aucun de eux soit absent a dirige & a messes auant ditz il paiera a dit ffraternitie vn lb de cier mesq' il soit maladie ou hors du ville.

Relief of  
sufferers by  
loss from  
storm, fire, or  
theft.

Cy que dieu defend si aucun meschief auendra a nul deux par tempest de meere ou arsure de feu ou robbrie ou nul autre maladie q'conge sodeynement sedant par lordinance de dieu . . . chescun semaine durant la dit meschief de leur comune Boyste x d paie al fyn de chescun moys.

Settlement of  
disputes.

Item si aucun debate ou trespas soit p . . . ve ou comence entre ascunz gentz du dite ffraternitie celui se sente agreue vendra a les ij bons gentz esluz & leur certefier sa greuance . . . el . . . bons gentz atreteront acordement entre eux qui sont issint discordez & sils ne pourent bonement accorder a leur attretement adoncs soient accordez par comune ley & celui q' soit troue en le default soit mayntenuz par nul de ses confreres auant ditz.

Admission of  
new members.

Item que les ditz meistres du dit ffraternitie ne receyuoient nul confrere en leur dite ffraternitie si non par comune assent de toutz les bons gentz du dit fraternitie q' ils seront eslut en le iour de leur comune assemble nemye autrement & si celui q' voudra entrer en la dite ffraternitie auera trespas deuers ascuns de ses confreres ia ne entra deuant qil ad fait amendes par comune assent de les confreres resonablement a celui . . . le trespas fuist fait.



Item que nul du dite ffraternitie desore soit mayntenour des putes ou bordelles ou bordel tenant pour viure de son corps en esclandre de les bons gentz du dite ffraternitie ne (chascun) du dite ffraternitie soit mayntenour des cours damours comunement ne de seismes en la dite cite ne dehors ne mayntenour de nul autre folye en esclandre les ditz bons gentz du dit ffraternitie ne en desturbance de la paix (de) notre sieur le Roy. Et si nul soit troue que dieu defende soit il pris & enprisone a la suyte de toutz les bons gentz auantditz & par auisement de eux & par assent del mair & viscontz de la cite greuouement puny issint q' autres mesfesours soient garnys par encheson de luy.

None to be of evil life.

Item que nul du dit fraternitie p'igne devers luy ne coilli autri seruant ne apprentys durant le couenant en son meistre & luy et si nul du dit ffraternitie tiel tort face . . . auyement des bones gentz du dit ffraternitie restora les damages que son mestre en ad vst par default du seruice du dit seruant ou apprentys & le dit seruant ou apprentys a nul d[u dit fra]ternitie . . . [tan]q' les amendes par luy soient faitz a toutz les bons gentz du dite ffraternitie.

Apprentices and servants not to be enticed.

Item si ascun du dite fraternitie soit troue rebelle ou contrarious encontres nulles des poyntz auantditz ou de male fame ou mendysant constontablement encontre ascuns de p . . . & ne voet en nul manere se retrer ne amender hastement soit il voidy hors du dite ffraternitie tanq' il auera fait gree & amendes al partie qil ad fait tort & q' ia ne entra . . . assent de toutz ses confreres.

Rebellious and ill-disposed brethren to be dismissed.

Item si nul du dite ffraternitie ne paie al fyn de chescun quartre son quartrage come auant est dit & auxi sil ne soit a dirige & a Messes quant nul des ditz confreres ou sa femme soit mort qil paiera les amercimentz auanditz. Et sil ne voet paier ses ditz amercimentz qil soit ouste hors du dite ffraternitie par auisement de tout le dit ffraternitie tanq' il ad fait gre au dit fraternitie de les amercimentz come auant est dit.

Fines for non-payment of quartrage and absence from funerals.

Item accorde fuist fait par entre toutz les confreres du dite fraternitie al temps que John Baker Reynand Erchedekne furent mestres du dite ffraternitie que chescun des ditz confreres deueroit paier pour son corps de mesme a lour mangerie ij s & pour sa feme xij d & vnge ne encresteront pluis cestassauoir al iour a mang' & a nuyt al sop' & a demayn a dyner.

Fixed charges for feasts.

THOMAS ERYNELIN, Maistres.  
THOMAS KYRKETON,

*Endorsed*

la ffraternite de Cotellers. (*Chancery Miscellanea*, Bundle 42, no. 215.)

#### TRANSLATION.

In honour of our Lord Jesus Christ and of His sweet Mother and of all saints, certain of the good folks of the Mistery of Cutlers of London have begun a Fraternity founded.

Fraternity among themselves in support of two tapers to burn (before the image of) Our Lady in the Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady called the Charterhouse, West Smithfield, the year of grace 1370.

First it is ordained that everyone who shall be admitted into the said Fraternity shall be of good fame and of seemly bearing; and that no one who is admitted into the said Fraternity shall practise, either within or without the said City, quarrels, follies, disorders, affrays, or any other riot, in disgrace of the good folks of the said Fraternity, by the which riot or disturbance he might be beaten, wounded, either in any kind of folly or be damaged through his own folly and to his own . . . without recovering anything or having any answer from any of the said Fraternity.\* And if there be any who would complain against him, let him be arrested without having help by bail from any of the said Fraternity until the law of the land have passed for him.

Also that everyone of the said Fraternity shall meet in a certain place, appointed by the Masters for the time being, every quarter of the year, to wit, on the second Sunday after the end of each quarter (to pay) his quarterage, namely 6d., in maintenance and support of the said two tapers to burn in the Church of the Annunciation of our Lady abovesaid, under penalty of a pound of wax, unless he be sick or out of town.

Also it is agreed among the brethren of the said Fraternity that they shall meet every year in the said Church of the Annunciation of our Lady clad in a suit of the livery of coats, or otherwise clad, at the Feast of the Annunciation to hear a mass of the same Feast, and to offer at the said mass everyone of them a penny in honour of Jesu Christ and of our Lady Saint Mary and of all saints, and then afterwards to meet in a certain appointed place to eat and drink together, to wit, on the first Sunday after Trinity, at the which assembly they shall elect two good and loyal folks of the said Fraternity to collect and keep the money for the said Tapers, and to buy their clothing for coats or other vesture for the year next ensuing.

Also it is agreed that the said two good folks shall make from the remainder of the money that remains from the said two Tapers, four torches and five round tapers, so that if any one of the said Fraternity, or his wife, die he shall have the said four torches and five tapers at their burial, at the Placebo and Dirige, and at the five masses. And that everyone of the said Fraternity shall be there at the burial of the one who is dead, in his clothing of the said Fraternity, on the eve at Dirige, and on the day to offer at the five masses aforesaid. And if any one of them be absent at Dirige and at the masses aforesaid, he shall pay to the said Fraternity a pound of wax, unless he be sick or out of town.

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\* Original defective and obscure.



If, which God forbid, any mischief shall befall any one of them by storm at sea, or conflagration of fire, or theft, or any other sudden mischance whatsoever . . . by visitation of God . . . (let there be) paid 10d.\* every week during the said mischance from their common Box, at the end of each month.

Relief of sufferers by loss from storm, fire, or theft.

Also if any contention or injury be stirred up or begun among any folks of the said Fraternity, he who feels himself aggrieved shall come to the two good men elected and shall inform them of his complaint \* . . . the good men shall endeavour an accord between those who are so at variance, and if they can not well reconcile them by their endeavour, then let them be reconciled by the common law, and let not him who is found in the wrong be upheld by any of his brethren aforesaid.

Settlement of disputes.

Also that the said Masters of the said Fraternity shall not receive any brother into their said Fraternity except by general assent of all the good folks of the said Fraternity; that they shall be elected on the day of their general assembly and not otherwise; and if he who wishes to enter into the said Fraternity shall have done wrong against any of his brethren, then he shall not enter until he has reasonably made amends, by general assent of the brethren, to him (against) whom the wrong was done.

Admission of new members.

Also that no one of the said Fraternity henceforth be a supporter des putes ou bordelles or a keeper of a bordel for his livelihood, to the dishonour of the good folks of the said Fraternity; that none of the said Fraternity be a keeper des cours damours comunement nor of \* . . . in the said City or without, nor a supporter of any other folly to the disgrace of the said good folks of the said Fraternity nor in disturbance of the peace of our lord the King. And if any such be found, which God forbid, let him be taken and imprisoned at the suit of all the good folks aforesaid, and by their counsel and by assent of the Mayor and Sheriffs of the City grievously punished so that other ill-doers may be warned by his punishment.

None to be of evil life.

Also that no one of the said Fraternity entice or attach to himself the servant or apprentice of another during the agreement between his master and him; and if anyone of the said Fraternity do such wrong, by determination of the good folks of the said Fraternity, he shall restore the loss that his master has sustained by default of the service of the said servant or apprentice, and the said servant or apprentice . . . to none of the said Fraternity until amends be made by him to all the good folks of the said Fraternity.

Apprentices and servants not to be enticed.

Also if any of the said Fraternity be found rebellious or refractory against any of the articles aforesaid, or of evil repute, or constantly maligning against any of . . . , and will not in any way retract or amend, let him promptly be dismissed out

Rebellious and ill-disposed brethren to be dismissed.

\* Original defective and obscure.

of the said Fraternity until he have made accord and amends to the person he has wronged, and let him not enter\* . . . assent of all his brethren.

Fines for non-payment of quarterage and absence from funerals.

Also if any of the said Fraternity pay not his quarterage at the end of each quarter as is aforesaid, and also if he be not at Dirige and at Masses when any of his brethren or his wife be dead, let him pay the fines aforesaid. And if he will not pay his said fines, let him be expelled out of the said Fraternity, by resolution of all the said Fraternity, until he have made accord to the said Fraternity of the fines as is aforesaid.

Fixed charges for feasts.

Also agreement was made among all the brethren of the said Fraternity at the time when John Baker, Reynand Erchedekne, were Masters of the said Fraternity; that each of the said brethren ought to pay for himself at their feast 2s. and for his wife 12d., and that they should never be more increased, to wit, on the day for a repast, and at night for supper, and on the morrow for dinner.

THOMAS ERYNELIN

Masters.

THOMAS KYRKETON

*Endorsed*

The Fraternity of Cutlers.

## XV. ORDINANCES OF THE SHEATHERS.

(20th September, 1375, 49 Edward III.)

Ordinaciones de Shethers.

Vicesimo die Septembris anno regni Regis Edwardi Tertij post Conquestum xlix<sup>o</sup> probi homines de mistere de Shethers london venerunt coram Maiore & Aldermannis & liberaverunt hic quandam billam in hec verba. As honorables & sages Mair & Audermans de la Citee de loundres supplionnt les bones gentz del mistier de Shethers qe come lan notre sieur le Roi qceest premiere par le Meir & Audermans del assent del commune del dite Citee pour commune profyt furont grauntez & ordeignez certains Articles & poyntz touchantz le dit mistier les queux Articles p' defaute de persones iurez p' lealment assercher & presenter les defautes touchantz le dit mistier ont este meynz bien gardez. Plese graunter & ordeigner as ditz gentz pour confirmacion & meintenace des ditz Articles et sibien pour commune profit come pour honeste & loialte del dit mistier les pointz de suchescript. Adeprimis que les ordenances touchantz le dit mistier grauntez & faitz lan notre sieur le Roi qceest primere soient tenuz a toutz poyntz forsque la defence deouerer de nuyt la quele defence pour ce que ele ne constraint pas cotellers le queux oueronnt de nuyt en le dit mistier, prionnt les ditz bones gentz pour commune profyt qil soit defait & que les ditz bonez gentz pouronnt estre si frankes pour ouerer de nuyt en lour mistier come cotillers ou autres pour ouerer de nuyt en mesme la mistier. Item que la communealte del dit mistier pouronnt de an en an eslyre qatre prudhommes qui seronnt resseux & iurez deuannt le mair qui

Previous Ordinances of 1 Edw. III.

Request for their confirmation.

And enforcement.

Except prohibition of night work.

Power to elect Searchers.

\* Original defective and obscure.



sera pur le temps en la Gyhalle a loialment sercher les defautez touchantz le dit mistier & les presenter as ditz Mair & Audermans afyn qils soient par eux redresses & les amercimentz ent ordignez leuez a la profyt de la Chambre. Item que touz les ouereignes del dit mistier faitz de fauz matiere ou fausement faitz en qui maynes ils soient trouez a vendre par nul des ditz serchours deinz la dite Citee soient forfaitz al oepe de la Chambre & le fesour amercie selonc la quantite del aunciens ordinances par auis & assent del Mair & Audermans. Item que nul del dit Mistier resceiue allowys qui ne fuist pas apprentiz en la dite Citee sil ne soit assaie deuannt par les ditz serchours sil soit able deuerer en le dit mistier come lowiz ou nemye et si null del dit mistier tigne asoni come lowiz par vn semaine puis qil est certifie & garny par les ditz serchours que nest pas able encourage lauandit peyne. Item si nul del dit Mistier soit rebell' ou deshobeisaunt a nuls des ditz serchours si qil ne voet luy suffrer entrer en sa meson en du temps oue vn seriaunte de la Chambre a ceo assigne par le Mair ou par le Chamberleyn pour enserche due encourage la peyn solonc lordinance auandit. Item que nul soit fait frank en le dit Mistier sil ne poet trouer ameyns quatre franks del dit Mistier pur tesmoigner al Chamberleyn sa ablesse. Item que nul du dit Mester ne fasse certain couenaunt pour don' a son lowys pour ouerer en mesme le mester plus que amoinc xxx s. par an outre sa table & si nul face le contrarie encourage la dite peyne. Item si nul del dit mester soit rebel a lur gardeins si qil sanz cause resonable refuse puis qil soit duement garny de venir a lur assembles ordeines pour redresser deffaultes tochaunz le dit mester a profit & honor si bien del dit mester come de la dite Citee encourage la dite peyne. Item sil soit proue que les ditz gardiens soient laches & negligenz encontre lur serment de faire lur office tochant le dit mester encourage la dite peyne. (*Letter-Book H, f. 22 b.*)

False work to be seized, and the makers fined.

Journeymen not apprenticed to be tested.

Penalty for hindrance of Searchers.

New freemen to be certified as to their ability. Fixed wages for journeymen.

Penalties for absence from meetings.

Penalty for Wardens if negligent.

#### TRANSLATION.

On the 20th day of September in the 49th year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the Conquest came the reputable men of the Mistery of Shethers of London before the Mayor and Aldermen and delivered here a certain petition in these words. To the honourable and discreet Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London pray the good folks of the Mistery of Shethers that forasmuch as in the first year of our present lord the King there were granted and ordained by the Mayor and Aldermen with the assent of the Commonalty of the said City, for the common profit, certain articles and points touching the said Mistery, the which articles by the default of the persons sworn faithfully to search out and present defaults touching the said Mistery have been too little observed. May it please you to grant and ordain to the said folks the underwritten points for the confirmation and maintenance of the said Articles and as well for the

Ordinances of the Sheathers.

Previous Ordinances of 1 Edw. III.

Request for their confirmation.

common profit as well for the honesty and loyalty of the said Mistery. First. That the Ordinances touching the said Mistery granted and made in the first year of our present lord the King shall be held in all particulars, except the prohibition to work at night, the which prohibition, since it does not restrain the Cutlers who work at night in the said trade, the said good folks pray for the common profit that it may be annulled, and that the said good folks may be as free to work at night in their trade as are the Cutlers or others to work in the same trade at night. Also. That the commonalty of the said Mistery may from year to year elect four worthy men who shall be received and sworn in the Guildhall before the Mayor for the time being, to faithfully search the defaults touching the said trade and present them to the said Mayor and Aldermen in order that they may be by them redressed and the penalties thereto ordained be levied to the profit of the Chamber. Also. That all work of the said trade made of false material or deceitfully made in whosoever hands they may be found, for sale, by any of the said Searchers within the said City, be forfeit to the use of the Chamber, and the maker fined according to the amount of the old ordinances by advice and assent of the Mayor and Aldermen. Also. That no one of the said Mistery receive a journeyman who has not been an apprentice in the said City unless he be previously tested by the said Searchers whether he be able to work in the said trade as a journeyman or not, and if any of the said trade take him as a journeyman for a week after being notified and warned by the said Searchers that he is not fit, let him suffer the penalty aforesaid. Also. If any of the said Mistery be rebellious or disobedient to any of the said Searchers, so that he suffer him not to enter into his house at a reasonable time, with a serjeant of the Chamber thereto assigned by the Mayor or by the Chamberlain to make due search, let him suffer the penalty according to the aforesaid ordinance. Also. That no one be made free in the said Mistery unless he can find at least four freemen of the said Mistery to certify his ability to the Chamberlain. Also. That no one of the said Mistery make sure agreement to give his journeyman for working in the same trade more than at least 30s. a year besides his food, and if any do the contrary let him suffer the said penalty. Also. If any of the said Mistery be disobedient to their Wardens, so that without reasonable cause he refuse, when duly warned, to come to their meetings appointed for redress of defaults touching the said Mistery, for the profit and honour as well of the said Mistery as of the said City, let him suffer the said penalty. Also. If it be proved that the said Wardens are lax and negligent concerning their oath to perform their office touching the said Mistery, let them suffer the said penalty.

And enforcement.  
Except prohibition of night work.

Power to elect Searchers.

False work to be seized, and the makers fined.

Journeyman not apprenticed to be tested.

Penalty for hindrance of Searchers.

New freemen to be certified as to their ability. Fixed wages for journeymen.

Penalties for absence from meetings.

Penalty for Wardens if negligent.



## XVI. OATH OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE MISTERIES.

(9th August, 1376, 50 Edward III.)

Memorandum quod nono die Augusti anno regni Regis Edwardi tercij post conquestum quinquagesimo coram Johanne Warde, Maiore, Willielmo Halden, Recordatore, Johanne Chichestre, Adam Stable, Robert Hatfeld, Johanne Aubrey, Bartholomeo ffrestlynge, Nicholao Twyford, Johanne Maryns, Johanne Haddele, Heruico Begge, Ad' de Sancto Juoue, Aldermannis, in camera Gyhalde london ad sumonicionem dicti Maioris venit immensa Communitas de Misteris subscriptis & optulerunt nomina personarum subscriptarum per quodlibet misterum generaliter electarum & deputatarum pro consilio ciuitatis vsque ad oneracionem noui maioris que quidem persone fuerunt tunc separatim per mistera sua vocate & onerate per sacrum suum vt sequitur. Vous iurez que vous vendrez parfitement quant vous serez sommes pour comune conseil de la Citee si vous neiez loial & resonable excusation, & bon & loial conseil donez solonc votre sen & sauoir, & pour nul fauour meyntendres nul singuler profit encontre le comun profit de la Citee sauant a chescun mestir ses vsages resonables, & quant vous serez issint venuz ne departirez sanz resonable cause ou conge du Mair ou deuant que le Mair & ses compaignons departent. (*Letter-Book H*, f. 46b.)

### TRANSLATION.

Be it remembered that on the ninth day of August in the fiftieth year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the Conquest in the presence of John Warde, Mayor, William Halden, Recorder, John Chichestre, Adam Stable, Robert Hatfeld, John Aubrey, Bartholomew Frestlynge, Nicholas Twyford, John Maryns, John Haddele, Hervy Begge, Adam de St. Ive, Aldermen, there came into the Chamber of the Guildhall, London, at the summons of the said Mayor, an immense assembly of the underwritten Misteries, and presented the names of the persons underwritten by each of the Misteries generally elected and deputed for the Council of the City until the charge of the new Mayor, the which persons were then separately called, each by his Mistery, and charged upon his oath as follows. You shall swear that you will readily come when you shall be summoned for a Common Council of the City, unless you have lawful and reasonable excuse, and good and lawful counsel you shall give according to your wit and knowledge, and for no favour shall you maintain any private benefit against the common profit of the City, preserving to each Mistery its reasonable customs, and when you shall so come you shall not depart without reasonable cause, or the Mayor's leave, or before the Mayor and his brethren depart.

## XVII. ORDINANCE OF THE CUTLERS.

(January 1379-80, 3 Richard II.)

Ordinacio  
cultellariorum.

As honorables seignours mair & Aldermans de la Citee de loundres monstront & supplient en comune touz les prudeshomes del mestier des Cotillers de mesme la Cite que come al honour de dieu & pur comune profist si bien a tout le roialme come del dite Citee en amendement & correccioun des plusours defautes q' ont estee vsez en mesme le mestier si ont ils par comune acord & meure deliberacion entre eux fait escrire certains articles tochantz lour dit mestier \* *quele chose vous prient ils q' vous pleise de vos bones discrecionz & sages auyz oyer les articles q' sensuont.* Issint que enapres ils puissent estre enroullez entrez & escriptz en vn liure en la chambre A fyn le meulx destre tenuz en temps auenir.

Silver knife-  
handles to be  
of sterling  
quality.

j. Enprimes ordeigne soit que nul face ouerir ne vende coteulx oue manches ne gaynes harnoisez ouesque argent si largent ny soyt dauxi fyn allaye come lestarlyng sur payne de paier al chambreleyn al oeps de la Citee vj s. viij d. ou plus selonc ceo que semble as ditz Mair & Aldermans resonables pur la quantite du trespas.

Wooden  
handles not to  
be coloured.

ij. Item pur eschuer desceite al poeple en cel part ordeigne soit que null' manches darbre forsque digeon soyent colorez mais soient nue ment vendus come lour droit nature demande Et si ascun tiel soit trouue a vendre si encourage le vendour en la payne auant dite.

Wages of  
journeymen to  
be fixed ac-  
cording to  
their ability.

iiij. Item pur redresser le excessive alloer de les alloes del dit mestier ordeigne soit que nul allowys ouerour dicel mestier qui nest frank de la Citee nad este apprentis del dit mestier & accomplis son terme en la dite Citee ou autrement serui vij ans en le dite Citee en le dit miestier soit resceu de ouerir el dit mestier si tiel allowys ne soit primerement assaie par les surueours iurez del dit mester de sa science combien il est digne deprendre par la iourne par la semaine ou par entier terme & selonc ceo qils trouont selonc lour consciences que tiel allowys bien poet deseruir lui agardent les dit surueours deprendre Et que celui qui done a tiel allowys outre lextente fait par les ditz surueours encourage mesme la paine Et puis que les ditz surueours issint ont resonablement mys tiel allowys al extente come dessus est dit ne soit a nullui persone le prise de tiel allowys outre tiel extente mys plus haut ne baas sur paine susdit atanke il soit apris de plus deseruir.

No cutlery to  
be taken out  
of the City  
until  
"viewed."

iiij. Item que nul del dit mestier par lui mesmes ne par autre meene persone face carier cotillerie fait en la Citee hors de la Cite a vendre tanque les surueours du dit mestier iurez qui pur le temps seront layent vewes sil soit auoable ou nemye sur paine susdit. Les queux mestres serront iurez de parfitement venir a ces

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\* The words in italics are crossed through in the original.



voire quant ils a ceo soyent requis Et si nul des ditz mestres ne voet venir afaire la vewe que celui qamesne tiel cotillerie hors du dite Citee soit tenuz pur escuse.

v. Item que null soit suffert de vser le dit mestier par lui ne par les siens dans la cite sil ne voet estier al reule des surveours iurez & eslieux par le dit mestier pur le temps Et auxint tenir touz les ordenances approuez del dit mestier auxi auant come ascun homme del dit mestier a son poer sur paine susdit Et que nul du dit mestier ouere par nuyt null manere cotillerie ne ueprofre (?) a vendre ouertement en les dymenges sur paine susdit.

All who follow the trade to obey the Rulers and Ordinances. Work by night and on Sundays forbidden.

vj. Item que nul del dit mester naporte nenvoie a vendre cotillerie a Euechepyng ne as hostilleries mais le vende en sa meson de meene ou shope sur payne auantdit & forfaiture dil cotillerie que poet estre troue issint a vendre Si noun que ascun graunt sieur ou autre prude homme envoie apres tiel cotillerie pur son oeps a sa place ou a son hostel a voer si lui plest ou noun.

Cutlery not to be sold at markets or inns.

vij. Item quant ascun chose tochant le dit mestier soit presente deuant mair ou chamberleyn par les ditz surveours iurez come faux & forfaitable & le defendant lour voet trauerser disant que ele soit avoable qadonqs le mair & chamberleyn envoiant apres quatre prudes hommes del dit mestier lex queux soient iurez pur ent le voir dire Et si celle chose soit troue par lour serment nient auouable soit ele forfaita & le defendant encourage la paine susdit Et si soit troue avouable adonqs' encourgent les mestres qui issint atort la presentirent en la paine auantdit & outre de rendre damage resonable al pleintif pur lour faux plainte.

Appeal against Overseers' judgment allowed.

viii. Item ordeigne soit & assentuz par touz les prudeshommes del dit mestier pur lour bone & honeste gouernance que chescun an les surveours eslieux & iurez del dit mestier garnissent touz les bones gentz de meisme le mestier destre assemblez en vne couenable place deins la Citee pur eslire lour surveours del dit mestier pur lan ensuant quant ils seront eslieux les primers surveours pursueront al chamberleyn & comune sergeant defaire venir les nouell' surveours ala Gihall pur prendre lour charge illoeqs & ceo deins quinsze iours apres le feste del Seint Trinite sur paine auantdit.

Election of new Rulers at Trinity.

ix. Item que nul homme del dit mestier ne voet venir pur sa malice al garnissement des ditz surveours qui pur le temps seront as tieux assemblees couenables & necessaries si bien pur comune profit de la Citee come pur la bone reule del dit mestier ou sil ne voet estier al resonable assent des ditz surveours ou la plus graunt partie des bones gentz & vaillantz du dit mestier encourage paine susdit.

Nota—Penalty for absence from Assemblies.

x. Item ordeigne est & assentuz que a chescun foitz que ascun del dit mestier soit troue fautif en ascun des articles auantditz paie al chamberleyn la paine

Penalty for defaults.

auantdite cest assauoir vjs. viij.d. &c. Et ceo si bien les surueours iurez come autres sils soient trouez en defaute ou laches ou negligentz defaire ceo que a lour office appartient encourgent la paine auantdit.

Fees for Searchers.

xj. Item pleise a vos treshonorable seignours graunter que les surueours qui seront pur le temps del dit mestier pur lour trauall & diligence de cercher & presenter les defautes trouez en la dite mestier eyent la tierce partie des fyns leuez pur defautes par eux presentez.

None to be admitted by redemption unless of proved ability.

xij. Item que nul homme soit enfranchise en le dit mestier par redempcioun si non par tesmoignance de vj prudes hommes du dit mestier de sa ablesse cestassauoir les iiij gardeins & autres deux prudes hommes de meisme le mestier.

A Serjeant to assist the Wardens.

xiiij. Item encas si auient que les gardeins du dit mestier ne sont de poer de rouler & mettre en execucion les Articles auantdit que adonqs pleise a vos treshonorez seigneurs mair & aldermen eux assigner ascun seriant quel vos plect de la chambre en eide de eux Sauuant toteforth poer as Mair & Aldermen qui pur le temps seront damender & chaunger amenuser & aiustier as articles auant dit a quel hoer que lour semble pur comune profit busoignable a ceo faire & auxi a due correccioun & droite faire a ceux qui se pleindrent par colour des ascuns des ditz articles estre torcenousement greuez.

Power of Mayor and Aldermen to amend the Articles.

Ordinances approved.

Memorandum quod billa suprascripta cum articulis suis pp'orta fuit per probos homines misteri cultell' ex assensu omnium eiusdem misteri in plena congregacione Johannis Hadle Maioris & Aldermannorum ad Hust' de communibus placitis in london die lune proximo post festum sancti Hillarii anno regni Regis Ricardi secundi tercio & habito inde ausamento & plena deliberacione inter dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos in Camera Gihalde videbatur eisdem dictam petitionem esse rationabilem Et ideo preceptum fuerat sic intrari in firmo robore permans'.  
(*Letter-Book H*, f. 118.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Ordinance of the Cutlers.

To the honourable lords, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, show and pray in common all the reputable men of the trade of Cutlers of the same City, that forasmuch as, as well to the honour of God as to the common profit both of all the realm and of the said city, in amendment and correction of many defaults which have been customary in the same trade, they have by common accord, and with mature deliberation among them, caused to be written certain Articles touching their said trade; may it please you, of your good discretion and wise consideration, to hear the Articles which follow; that so, they may afterwards be enrolled, entered, and written, in a book in the Chamber, to the end that they may be the better observed in time to come.



1. In the first place, be it ordained, that no one shall cause to be made, or shall sell, knives with handles, or gaynes, harnessed with silver, if the silver be not of as fine alloy as sterling silver ; on pain of paying to the Chamberlain to the use of the City, 6s. 8d. or more, according as it shall seem reasonable to the said Mayor and Aldermen, for the extent of the offence. Silver knife-handles to be of sterling quality.
2. Also, in order to avoid deceit of the people in this behalf, be it ordained, that no handles of wood, except digeon, shall be coloured ; but let them be sold only according as their right nature demands. And that if any such shall be found for sale, the vendor shall incur the penalty aforesaid. Wooden handles not to be coloured.
3. Also, to provide against the excessive wages of the journeymen of the said trade, be it ordained, that no journeyman working in the same trade, who is not free of the City, or who has not been an apprentice in the said trade, and has not completed his term in the said City, or otherwise served seven years within the said City in the said trade, shall be admitted to work in the said trade, if such journeyman have not first been tried by the sworn overseers of the said trade as to his skill, to ascertain how much he is deserving to take by the day, by the week, or for a whole term ; and as they shall find, according to their consciences, that such journeyman can well deserve, let the said overseers award him what he is to take. And let him who shall give to such journeyman in excess of the valuation so made by the said overseers, incur the same penalty. And after that the said overseers shall have so reasonably set such journeyman at his value, as is above stated, that for no person the wage of such journeyman shall be beyond the sum so assessed, either higher or lower, on the pain abovesaid, until he shall have learned to deserve more. Wages of journeymen to be fixed according to their ability.
4. Also, that no one of the said trade, himself, or by any other intermediate person, shall cause cutlery made in the City to be carried out of the City for sale, until the sworn overseers of the said trade for the time being shall have viewed it, to see if it is allowable or not, on the pain abovesaid : the which Masters shall be sworn readily to come to such view, when required thereto. And if any one of the said Masters will not come to make such inspection, then he who carries such cutlery out of the said City shall be held as excused. No cutlery to be taken out of the City until "viewed."
5. Also, that no one shall be permitted to follow the said trade, himself or by his people, within the City, if he will not stand by the rule of the overseers sworn and chosen by the said trade for the time being ; and also, hold all the ordinances approved of the said trade, as much as any man of the said trade may, to the best of his power ; on the abovesaid penalty. And that no one of the said trade shall work by night at any manner of cutlery, or shall offer it for sale openly on Sundays, on the pain abovesaid. All who follow the trade to obey the Rulers and Ordinances.  
  
Work by night and on Sundays forbidden.

Cutlery not to  
be sold at  
markets or  
inns.

6. Also, that no one of the said trade shall carry, or send to be sold, any cutlery to Evechepyng or to hostelries ; but he is to sell it in his own house or shop, on the pain aforesaid, and forfeiture of such cutlery as shall be so found for sale : unless some great lord or other reputable man shall send after such cutlery, for his own use, to be brought to his place or to his hostel, to see whether it pleases him or not.

Appeal  
against  
Overseers'  
judgment  
allowed.

7. Also, when anything touching the said trade shall be presented before the Mayor or Chamberlain by the said sworn overseers, as being false and forfeitable, and the defendant shall wish to contradict them, saying that it is allowable ; then the Mayor and Chamberlain shall send for four reputable men of the said trade, who shall be sworn to say the truth as to the same ; and if such thing shall be found on their oath to be not allowable, the same shall be forfeited, and the defendant shall incur the penalty abovesaid. And if it shall be found to be allowable, then the Masters who so wrongly presented it, shall incur the penalty aforesaid, and further, shall pay reasonable damages to the plaintiff for their false plaint.

Election of  
new Rulers  
at Trinity.

8. Also, be it ordained and assented to by all the reputable men of the said trade, for their good and honest governance, that each year the overseers chosen and sworn of the said trade, shall warn all the good folks of the same trade to be assembled in some befitting place in the City, to choose their overseers of the said trade for the following year ; and that when they are chosen, the former overseers shall make suit to the Chamberlain and Common Serjeant, to summon the new overseers to the Guildhall, to take their charge there, and this, within fifteen days after the Feast of the Holy Trinity, on the pain aforesaid.

Nota—  
Penalty for  
absence from  
Assemblies.

9. Also, if any man of the said trade will not come, by reason of his own waywardness, at the warning of the said overseers for the time being, to such assemblies, befitting and necessary, as well for the common profit of the City, as for the good rule of the said trade ; or if he will not submit to the reasonable award of the said overseers, or the greater part of the good and substantial persons of the said trade, such person shall incur the penalty abovesaid.

Penalty for  
defaults.

10. Also, it is ordained and assented to, that every time that any person of the said trade shall be found in default as regards any one of the Articles aforesaid, he shall pay to the Chamberlain the aforesaid penalty, namely, 6s. 8d. &c. And this, as well the sworn overseers, as others, if they be found in default, or lax, or negligent, in doing that which unto their office pertains ; in which case they are to incur the penalty aforesaid.

Fees for  
Searchers.

11. Also, may it please your very honourable Lordships, to grant that the overseers of the said trade, for the time being, for their trouble and diligence in searching for and presenting defaults found in the said trade, shall have the third part of the fines levied for the defaults so by them presented.



12. Also, that no man shall be enfranchised by redemption in the said trade, except on the testimony as to his ability of six reputable men of the said trade; that is say, the four Wardens, and other two reputable men of the same trade.

None to be admitted by redemption unless of proved ability.

13. Also, that in case it shall happen that the Wardens of the said trade have not the power to enforce and put in execution the Articles aforesaid, then may it please your very honourable Lordships, the Mayor and Aldermen, to assign them such serjeant of the Chamber as it may please you, in aid of them. Saving always unto the Mayor and Aldermen, for the time being, power to amend and change, to curtail and adjust, the Articles aforesaid, at any time that unto them it may seem requisite, for the common profit, so to do; and also, to make due and rightful correction in behalf of those who shall complain that under colour of any of the said Articles they have been wrongfully aggrieved.

A Serjeant to assist the Wardens.

Power of Mayor and Aldermen to amend the Articles.

Be it remembered thar the petition above-written, with its Articles, was brought forward by the reputable men of the Mistery of Cutlers, with the assent of the whole of the same Mistery, in full congregation of John Hadle, Mayor, and the Aldermen, at the Husting of Common Pleas, in London, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Hilary (13th January), in the third year of the reign of King Richard II: and after consideration and full consultation had thereon among the said Mayor and Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, it seemed to them that the said petition was reasonable; and it was therefore ordered that it be so entered and remain in full force.

Ordinances approved.

## XVIII. PETITION OF THE CUTLERS, BOWYERS, AND OTHER CRAFTS AGAINST NICHOLAS BREMBRE.

(1386, 10 Richard II.)

[This document is much decayed, and is in many places illegible. Passages or words supplied from other sources are indicated by italics, conjectural emendations are enclosed in brackets.]

[A tres excellent & tres redoute le] Roi nostre tressoueraigne & liege seigneur et as tresnobles & puissantz seigneurs de cest present parlement [Suppliant tres humblement ses poueres ligez des] Mestiers de Coutellers Bowyers fleichers Esporiours & Bladesmythes de loundres enuers monsieur Nichol Brembre qe come sur ceo qe lan du Roy nostre dit souuerain seigneur sisme Johan Northampton [maire en la dicte Cite de loundres] encontre le fest de Seint Edward lan dessus dit fist garnir les bonnes & franchises gentz de mesme la Citee comme la franchise est & vsage de mesme la Citee destre a le Gildhalle en mesme le fest [de Seint Edward] monsieur Nichol ouec ses complices mesme le iour ymagenant a destruire la bonne gouernance de la dite Citee ordeyna certayins mesfesours de son assent armes pour yceluy jour eslire le dit monsieur Nichol [en Maire du dicte Citee encontre la

Petition to King and Parliament by the military Crafts.

Citizens over-awed at the Mayoralty election by Brembre.

Who got him-  
self elected,  
6 Richard II.

corone] du Roy nostre dit seigneur et la franchise de la dicte Citee Et aucuns de son assent qui ouec luy y furent present baterent & trayrent certainnes gens ainsi qe les bons gens qui y furent pour [duement auoir fait la election de leur maire noeseront pas] demourer pour doubte de leur vies siqe le dit monsieur Nichol fut esleu en son primer an on quel temps il acrocha sur lui Royal pouuoir encontre la Coronne du Roy nostre dit seigneur [par quoy] Plese a vostre droiturelle seigneurs ordener & fere deu remedis sur ceste horrible matire pour dieu et en oeure de charite.

Rights of  
citizens again  
usurped in  
election of  
7 Richard II.

[Item se pleignent les auauntdis] suppliantz de ce qe le dit monsieur Nichol ouec lassent dautres ses complices acrocha sur lui Royal pouuoir de ce qe par la ou il a este vse en loundres du temps dont memoire ne court qe [par leur chartre du Roy grauntez & conferme quant le Maire de loundres] sera esleu il sera esleu par toute la comminalte de la Citee desusdicte & la les auantdis monsieur Nichol & les autres ses dis complices par leur conspiracie & fauce ymaginacion pour destruire lez lois et [bone gouvernaile et encon]tre la franchise fyerent somondre certaines gens qui furent de leur assent destre a le Gildhalle de loundres en le feste de saint Edward le Roy lan du regne du Roy nostre dit seigneur septisme [pour eslire vne Meire Et le dite] monsieur Nichol par lassent de toutz les autres a lui complices fist crier en diuerses parties de loundres & charger chescun homme de la Citee sur paine de emprisonement & sur la paine qe ils [purroient forfaire deuers le Roy] que nul ne serroit si *hardy* destre a la dicte eleccion forspris ceux qui furent somonez le queux furent somonnez par leur assent Et mesme le iour a celle eleccion qe fut faite encontre leur franchise le dit [monsieur Nichol et les autres de son assent] ordeinerent certaines gens auxi bien foreines come deseines a celle eleccion les queux furent armes a le Gildhalle de loundres pour faire celle eleccion & pour auoir *mis au mort* [toutz autres gentz qui ne furent] somonez & ils y eussent venuz pour la dicte eleccion. Pour quoi plese au Roy nostre dit souverain seigneur & aux dis tresnobles & puissans seigneurs de ceste present parliement de ceste *horrible* [chose fait encontre] la corone ordeiner & faire due remedie pour dieu & en oeure de charite.

Election  
packed by  
Brembre's  
followers.

None but his  
own party  
summoned.

Armed men  
keep the rest  
away.

Brembre came  
with armed  
men into  
Cheap, and  
imprisoned  
several people.

[Item se pleignent les auauntdis suppliantz vers] celui monsieur Nichol de ce qe il ouec lassent des dis ses complices acrocha sur lui Royal pouuoir en ce qe il vient en Chepe oue graunt multitude de gens d[e son assent armez a graunt doute des bonez gentz du] dicte Citee & plusieurs gens de mesme la Citee furent emprisonnes a graunt doubte de leur vies & grauns perdes de leur biens & damage de leur corps sanz response Pour quoi ple[se a nostre dit seigneur le Roy et les nob]les & puissans seigneurs de ceste present parliement de ceste chose faite encontre la Coronne du Roy nostre dit seigneur & lez loyes de son Royalme ordeiner & fere punir lez dit *mesfessours* pour dieu et en oeure de charite.



[Item se plaignont les auauntdis] supplians vers le dit monsieur Nichol de ce que il ouec lassent & aide des dis sez complices acrocha sur lui Royal pouuoir en ce que ils conspirerent & ymaginerent [pour auoir mys a mort plusours bones gentz de loundres] et pour ceo que ils ne pourroient fere celle chose sans aucun cause ils conspirerent de eulx enditer de felonie & mistrent sur les enquestes pour enditer ceux qui fuerent de l[affinite & assent du dit monsieur Nichol et queux fuerent de male fame] *come* il serra ouuertement prouuee si lez enditemens fuissent deuant vous par quoi plese au Roy nostre dit souurain seigneur & aux dessusdis tresnobles & puissant seigneurs de ceste present [parlemente diceste horrible matire faire] deu remedie & y charger Nicholas Exton ore maire de loundres de fere venir deuant vous touz lez enditemens acusemens & appels esteans en sa garde en au[antage du Roy pour dieu et en oeure de charite].

Citizens falsely indicted and accused.

Exton, the present Mayor, can produce evidence.

[Item se pleignent les auantdis supplians vers] le dit monsieur Nichol de ce que il ouec lassent & aide des dis sez complices acrocha sur lui Royal pouuoir en ce que ils firent vne grande assemblee [en diuerses lieux de la dite Citee par diuerses foitz par diuerses] gens de la dicte Citee & la conspirerent entre eulx comme ils pourroient maintenir lour fauxine que ils eurent au deuant commencez pour destruire les apresent *plaignants* [et tous autres queux] *furont* endites par lour faux ymaginacion & conspiracie fut ordene de lour commun assent de prendre des dictes gens qui furent de lour assent a ycelle fauxine grandes somes dargent . . . . . [laquelle] torcenouse prise dorgent a este continue de le temps que Johan Northampton fut ouste de son office & le dit monsieur Nichol esleu par la manere desusdite tanque en ca et *encor est* [continue par le maire qui] ore est et les autres qui sont de son assent par quoy plese au Roy nostre dit souurain seigneur et aux dis tresnobles & puissans seigneurs de ceste present parliement ordenir que ceste fauxe [conspiracie & ymaginacion soit] puniz selon la loy & que les *malfassours* en ont deserui pour dieu & en oeure de charite.

Conspiracy against the present complainants.

[Item monstrent] les dis supplians que le statut fait au parlement tenu a Westm' lan du regne du Roy nostre dit souurain seigneur qui ore est Sisme que commence en ces parolles Item ordinatum est [& statutum quod nec in Ciuitate London'] nec in aliis Ciuitatibus Burgis villis vel portubus maris per totum regnum predictum aliquis vitallarius officium Judiciale neque occupet quovismodo nisi in villis vbi alia persona [sufficiens ad huius statum] habendum reperiri non poterit dum tamen idem Judex pro tempore quo in officio illo steterit exercitio vitallario sub pena foris facture victualium suorum sic venditorum penitus cesset & *se* [abstineat pro se & suis omnino] ab eodem le contraie du quele estatut est vse en mesme la dicte Citee Que plese au Roy nostre dit souurain seigneur & aux desusdis seigneurs de ceste present parliement [que le dite estatut soit tenuz si bien en] mesme la Citee comme aillours & maintenant mis en execucion pour dieu & oeure de charite.

Statute forbidding Victuallers to hold municipal office to be kept.

Pardon obtained from the King under false pretence.

[Item monstrent les auantdis] supplians coment le dit monsieur Nichol & lez autres sez dis complices quant ils auoient enditez grant nombre de gens de la Citee de loundres par lour fauxe ymaginacion & conspiracie [le dit monsieur Nichol &] les desusdis sez complices suyrent au Roy nostre dit tressouurain seigneur pour vne Chartre de pardoun la quelle lour fut ottroye selon la pourport de la Copie dycelle Chartre la quelle Copie a [ceste bille annexe monstre bien] qe ceux qui furent enditez nauoient mye congnoissance de la chartre. Par quoy plase au Roy nostre dit tresouurain seigneur & aux dis tresnobles (seignours) de cest present parliement sur ceste *fauxine & conspiracie* ordener & fere deu & couenable remedye pour dieu et en oeure de charite.

Book called the "Jubilee" burnt by Exton, the present Mayor.

[Item les auantdis] *supplians* se plaignent vers Nicholas Exton ore maire de loundres par eleccion du dit monsieur Nichol Brembre & ses complices rencontre nostre franchise & franche eleccion que la ou fut compris [en vn liure appelle le] Jubile tous les bons Articles appourtenans au bon gouuernaille de la dicte Citee & a tous ces Articles comprises dedens tel liure furent iurez ycellui Nicholas monsieur Nichol Brembre & William [Cheyne touz lez Aldermans & touz lez bonnes communez de sustenir mesmes Articles le quel liure de dit Nicholas Exton & ses complices ont ars sanz] consent de la bone commune de la dicte Citee si que par ce a le dit Nicholas ouec lassent de sez dis complices acroche sur lui Royal pouuoir rencontre la Corone & son serement. Par quoy plese au Roy nostre dit souurain seigneur & aux tresnobles seigneurs de cest present parliement ordener & fere de ceste horrible trespas deu remede pour dieu & en oeure de charite.

Pray for dismissal of Exton, the Mayor.

Item les auantdis supplians supplient qe Nicholas Exton ore Maire de loundres soit descharge de son Office pour ce qe il fut forsiuge en la Gyldhalle de loundres de tous maneres de Offices pour tous iours *et* pour ce qe il ne fut esleu comme la loy de la franchise de la dicte Citee voet sinon par le dit monsieur Nichol & par certaines gens de lour assent pour ce qe le dit Nicholas Exton veut sustenir lez fauxete & extorcions qui furent comences par le dit monsieur Nichol & les autres de son affinite comme dist est Par quoy soit il oustre de son dit Office pour dieu & en oeure de charite.

And of Cheyne and Fastolf.

[Item les] *auantdis* supplians supplient qe William Cheyne Recordour & Hugh ffastolf Viscounte de loundres soient descharges de lour Offices pour tous iours par ce qe ils furent complices au dit monsieur Nichol . . . . . *les poins* desusdis & autres.

Wines sold contrary to Statute prices.

[Item monstrent] les auantdis supplians qe come il fut ordene par lestatut en vn parlement tenu a Westmonstre lan quint' du Roy nostre dit seigneur qui ore est qe nul Tonnel de meillour vin de Gascoigne de Oseye ou despaygne ne serroit vendu a plus haut prix qe c. s. & autres Tonnelx de commun vin de mesmes les



paijs pour meindre prix selon la value comme pour sept mars six mars & demi & six mars et le Tonnel de meillour vin de la Rochel pour six mars et le Tonnel dautre tiel vin de meindre prix selon la value comme pour v. mars & demi cynk mars quatre mars & demi & quatre mars et pipes & autres vesselz de meindre quantite selon la quantite dycelles vins soient venduz aux dis prix selon lafferant des tonnelx comme pleinement piert par le dit estatut. *Tous* les Maires & viscountez qui ont estre en loundres depuis en ca [font] le dit estatut . . . . . dos & sauffers tous les vendours de vins vendre au contraire dycellui estatut Concelant le proufit du Roy de lez forffaitoure a [grant damage] de tous lez seigneurs [et le comm]un peuple de tout le [dite Citee] Que plesse a vostre haute discrecion & droiturelle seigneurie considerer lez poins & matires desus exprimees & y ordener le remede qe *ent appartient fere* selon les loys d'Angleterre et . . . . . sur ce le dit estatut soit renouuelle en cest present parliement pour dieu & en oeure de charite. (*Ancient Petitions*, file 21, No. 1006.)

#### TRANSLATION.

To the most excellent and most dread King our most sovereign and liege lord and to the most noble and puissant lords of this present parliament. Pray very humbly their poor lieges of the Crafts of Cutlers, Bowyers, Fletchers, Spurriers, and Bladesmiths of London against master Nicholas Brembre, that whereas in the sixth year of the King our said sovereign lord, John Northampton, mayor in the said City of London, against the feast of Saint Edward in the above year, warned the good and free folks of the same City, as is the liberty and custom of the same City, to be at the Guildhall at the same feast of Saint Edward; master Nicholas with his accomplices the same day, with intent to destroy the good government of the said City, arrayed certain evildoers of his following, armed for that day, to elect the said master Nicholas as Mayor of the said City, against the crown of the King our said lord and the franchise of the said City. And some of his following, who were there present with him, beat and dragged certain folks, so that the good folks who were there for duly making the election of their mayor durst not tarry for dread of their lives, so that the said master Nicholas was elected in his first year, at the which time he took upon him Royal power against the crown of the King our said lord; wherefore may it please your just lordships to ordain and make due remedy upon this horrible matter. For God and as work of charity.

Petition to King and Parliament by the military Crafts.

Citizens over-awed at the Mayoralty election by Brembre.

Who got himself elected, 6 Richard II.

Also make their complaint the aforesaid suppliants that the said master Nicholas, with the accord of others his accomplices, took upon him Royal power; that whereas it has been used in London from time whereof memory runneth not, that by their charter granted and confirmed by the King, when the Mayor of London shall be elected he shall be elected by all the Commonalty of the aforesaid City, whereupon the aforesaid master Nicholas and the others his said accomplices, by

Rights of Citizens again usurped in election of 7 Richard II.

Election  
packed by  
Brembre's  
followers.

None but his  
own party  
summoned.

Armed men  
keep the rest  
away.

Brembre came  
with armed  
men into  
Cheap, and  
imprisoned  
several people.

Citizens falsely  
indicted and  
accused.

Exton, the  
present Mayor,  
can produce  
evidence.

their conspiracy and false device to destroy the laws and good governance and against the franchise, convoked certain people who were of their accord to be at the Guildhall of London on the feast of Saint Edward the King in the seventh year of the reign of the King our said lord to elect a Mayor. And the said master Nicholas, by the accord of all the others accomplices with him, caused proclamation to be made in various parts of London and each man of the City to be charged, on penalty of imprisonment and on pain of offending against the King, that none should be so bold as to be at the said election save those who were summoned, the which were summoned by their accord. And the same day at that election, which was made against their franchise, the said master Nicholas and the others of his accord appointed certain people, as well strangers as denizens, for that election, the which were armed at the Guildhall of London to make that election, and to have put to death all other people who were not summoned if they had come there for the said election. Wherefore may it please the King our said sovereign lord and the said very noble and puissant lords of this present parliament to ordain and make due remedy for this horrible thing done against the crown. For God and as work of charity.

Also the aforesaid suppliants make their complaint against that master Nicholas for that he, with the accord of his said accomplices, took upon him Royal power, in that he came into Cheap with a great multitude of people of his accord, armed to the great dread of the good people of the said City, and several people of the same City were imprisoned to the great dread of their lives and great loss of their goods and hurt of their persons without relief. Wherefore may it please our said lord the King and the noble and puissant lords of this present parliament to ordain concerning this thing done against the Crown of the King our said lord and the laws of his realm, and to punish the said evildoers. For God and as work of charity.

Also make their complaint the aforesaid suppliants against the said master Nicholas, that he with the accord and aid of his said accomplices took upon him Royal power in that they conspired and devised to have put to death several good people of London, and because they could not do that thing without any cause they conspired to indite them of felony and put on the inquests for indictment those who were of affinity and accord with the said master Nicholas and who were of evil fame, as it should be openly proved if the indictments were before you, wherefore may it please the King our said sovereign lord and the abovesaid very noble and puissant lords of this present parliament of this horrible matter to make due remedy, and thereon to charge Nicholas Exton, now mayor of London, to produce before you all the indictments, accusations, and appeals, being in his keeping, to the advantage of the King. For God and as work of charity.



Also make their complaint the aforesaid suppliants against the said master Nicholas, that he with the accord and aid of his said accomplices took on him Royal power, in that they made a great assembly in divers places of the said City, at divers times, by divers people of the said City, and there conspired among them how they might maintain their villainy which they had before begun, to destroy the present complainants and all others who were indicted by their false device and conspiracy, and it was ordained by their common accord to take of the said people who were of their accord for that villainy large sums of money . . . . . the which wrongful taking of money has been continued from the time that John Northampton was thrust from his office and the said master Nicholas elected in the manner abovesaid, as then and still is continued by the mayor who now is, and the others who are of his accord. Wherefore may it please the King our said sovereign lord and the said very noble and puissant lords of this present parliament to ordain that this false conspiracy and device be punished according to the law, and as the evil doers thereof have deserved. For God and as work of charity.

Conspiracy against the present complainants.

Also show the said suppliants that the statute made at the parliament held at Westminster in the sixth year of the reign of the King our said sovereign lord that now is, which begins with these words "Also it is ordained and appointed that neither in the City of London, nor in other Cities, Boroughs, towns, or seaports, through the whole of the aforesaid kingdom, may any victualler occupy Judicial office in any way, except in towns where no other person sufficient to hold this position can be found, on condition moreover that the same Judge for the time in which he continues in that office wholly cease from the victualler's trade, under penalty of forfeiture of his victuals thus sold, and that he, for himself and his household, altogether abstain from the same"; the contrary of which statute is practised in the said City. That it may please the King our said sovereign lord and the abovesaid lords of this present parliament that the said statute be kept, as well in the same City as elsewhere, and now put in execution. For God and as work of charity.

Statute forbidding Victuallers to hold municipal office to be kept.

Also show the aforesaid suppliants how the said master Nicholas and the others his said accomplices, when they had indicted a great number of the people of the City of London by their false device and conspiracy, the said master Nicholas and the abovesaid his accomplices sued to the King our said very sovereign lord for a Charter of pardon, the which was granted them according to the purport of the Copy of the same Charter, the which Copy, to this bill annexed, shows well that those who were indicted had no knowledge of the charter. Wherefore may it please the King our said very sovereign lord and the said very noble lords of this present parliament, upon this villainy and conspiracy to ordain and make due and suitable remedy. For God and as work of charity.

Pardon obtained from the King under false pretence.

Book called  
the "Jubilee"  
burnt by  
Exton, the  
present Mayor.

Also the aforesaid suppliants complain against Nicholas Exton, now mayor of London by election of the said master Nicholas Brembre and his accomplices against our franchise and free election, that whereas there was contained in a book called the Jubilee all the good Articles appertaining to the good governance of the said City, and to all these Articles contained within such book were sworn that same Nicholas, master Nicholas Brembre, and William Cheyne, all the Aldermen, and all the good commons, to maintain the same Articles, which book the said Nicholas Exton and his accomplices have burnt without the consent of the good commons of the said City, so that by this the said Nicholas with the accord of his said accomplices has taken on him Royal power against the Crown and his oath. Wherefore may it please the King our said sovereign lord and the very noble lords of this present parliament to ordain and make of this horrible trespass due remedy. For God and as work of charity.

For dismissal  
of Exton, the  
Mayor.

Also the aforesaid suppliants pray that Nicholas Exton, now Mayor of London, be discharged from his Office, for that he was deprived in the Guildhall of London of all manner of Offices for ever, and for that he was not elected as the law of the franchise of the said City willeth, but only by the said master Nicholas and by certain people of their accord, and for that the said Nicholas Exton willeth to maintain the villainy and extortions which were begun by the said master Nicholas and the others of his party as is said. Wherefore may he be ousted from his said Office. For God and as work of charity.

And of Cheyne  
and Fastolf.

Also the aforesaid suppliants pray that William Cheyne, Recorder, and Hugh Fastolf, Sheriff of London, be discharged from their offices for ever, because they were accomplices of the said master Nicholas . . . . . the matters aforesaid and others.

Wines sold  
contrary to  
Statute prices.

Also show the aforesaid suppliants, that although it was ordained by statute in a parliament held at Westminster in the fifth year of the King our said lord who now is, that no tun of the better wine of Gascony, of Oseye, or of Spain should be sold at a higher price than 100s. and other tuns of common wine of the same countries for less price, according to the value, as for seven marks, six marks and a half, and six marks; and the tun of better wine of La Rochelle for six marks, and the tun of other such wine at less price according to the value, as for five marks and a half, five marks, four marks and a half, and four marks, and pipes and other vessels of less quantity be sold, according to the quantity of those wines, at the said prices according to the proportion of the tuns, as plainly appears by the said statute. All the Mayors and sheriffs who have been in London since then make the said statute . . . . . and suffer all the sellers of wines to sell contrary to that statute, concealing the profit of the King from the forfeitures, to the great damage of all the



lords and the common people of all the said City. May it please your high discretion and rightful authority to consider the points and matters above expressed and thereof to ordain the remedy which appertains to be made therefore according to the laws of England, and . . . . . that the said statute be renewed in this present parliament. For God and as work of charity.

XIX. OATH TAKEN BY THE CHIEF MEN OF THE CITY.

(June, 1388, 11 Richard II.)

Vous iurez que vous ne assenterez ne ne suffrirez en qant qen vous est qascun iugement estatut ou ordenance fait ou rendez en cest present parlement soit ascunement adnullez reuersez ou repellez en ascun temps auenir & en outre que vous susteindrez les bones leis & vsages de roialme auant ces heures faitz & vsez & fermement garderez & ferrez garder la bone paix quiete & tranquillite en la Roialme sanz les destourber en ascun manere a votre poair si deux vous eide & ses seintz. (*Letter-Book H*, f. 228.)

TRANSLATION.

You shall swear that you will not permit nor allow, so far as in you lies, any decree statute or ordinance made or passed in this present Parliament to be anywise annulled reversed or repealed at any time to come; and further that you will uphold the good laws and customs of the kingdom aforetime made and used, and will firmly keep and cause to be kept, according to your ability, good peace, repose, and tranquillity within the realm, without disturbing them in any way, as God you help and his saints.

XX. COMMISSION OF LEADING CITIZENS AT THE TOWER OF LONDON TO INQUIRE INTO ALLEGATIONS OF EXTORTION AND OPPRESSION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY PRISONS.

(1402. 4 Henry IV.)

Commissioners appointed to assemble in the Tower of London with the Mayor and Aldermen in the presence of the Earl of Worcester, Lord Lovell, Lord Say, and others, to determine as to certain allegations brought by John Cavendish, citizen of London, of certain defaults by oppression and extortion against the Sheriffs and other officials concerning the management of the City prisons.

Charges by John Cavendish against the Sheriffs and others.

The Petition which led to the appointment of the above Commission (*Ancient Petitions*, file 22, no. 1094), runs as follows:—Pleise a nostre tres redoute seignour le Roy & a lez honorables seignours de ceste present (Parlement ordeign que le Mair &) Aldremans & certains Comuners de la Citee de Loundres desouth excriptez

Petition to King and Parliament.

London citizens to join in the Inquiry.

puisent (assembler a une certeyne jour en la) Tour de Loundres ou en asque  
 autre lieu a la volonte nostre treshaute seignour (le Roy en presence de Mons' le)  
 Counte de Wircestre le Seignour de Louell le Seignour de Say les Chieff Justices  
 de lun Ban(nk & de l'autre le Chief Baron) del Esche(quer) monsieur John Cheyne  
 monsieur Thomas Pikworth chrs. & John Durward (Esquiere pur avoir plein)  
 informacion & conisaunce de la verite de toutz les matires presentez a nostre  
 seigneur le (Roy par une John Cavendish) Et qe nostre dite seignour le Roy &  
 son tressage Consaill purrent ent ordeigner due reme(die en sustentacion de les  
 bones) laiez Custumes & vsagez vsez deins la Franchise du dite Citee en temps del  
 (tresnoble Roy E. Tierce q' Dieu) assoile Et si aveigne qe asque seignour deuant  
 escript soit absent vouz please pur prendre une autre en son lieu qe le remedie &  
 execucion dez ditz matirs ne soit tariez. les nouns (de Comuners ceux q'ensuent,  
 c'est assavoir.)

[The words in brackets are illegible in the original and are supplied from the  
*Rolls of Parliament.*]

And assemble  
 at the Tower.

Places of those  
 absent to be  
 supplied.

Names of the  
 Companies'  
 delegates.

John Moore	}	Mercers
John Lane		
William Chicheley	}	Grocers
Robert Wydington		
Stephen Thorpe	}	Goldsmiths
John Lincoln		
Thomas Duke	}	Skinners
Robert Polhill		
Roger Wangford	}	Drapers
William Norton		
Sewall Hoddesdon		
John Proffite	}	Fishmongers
Robert Mersk		
Nicholas Turk		
John Whitewell,		Jeweller
Thomas Clerk,		Lyndraper
Henry Julyan	}	Ismongers
Thomas Crafte		
Henry Pounfreit,		Sadler
John Atte Lee,		Chaundeler
Simon Hugh	}	Wolmongers
John Bayning		
John Scutt	}	Marchant Leche
John Bradmore		

John Creek	}	Taillours
Thomas Sibsey		
Robert Austyn	}	Cotillers
Richard Pull		
John Pound,		Pouchemaker
Gilbert Ashurst,		Wodmonger
Robert Brendewod	}	Salters
William Eustace		
Thomas Fulham	}	Peuterers
John Grace		
John Odyke	}	Tapicers
Will' Bonauntre		
Bartilmew Dekene,		Founder
Will' Sewall,		Girdler
Gilbert Baker	}	Bakers
Will' atte Sele		
John Moore	}	Brewers
John Staunton		
Walter Beaw	}	Bochers
Robert Edward		
John Kirkeby	}	Dyers
Henry Grenecobbe		
Aleyn Walsingham	}	Cordwaners
Robert Chesterfeld		



Les queux avaunt ditz xlviii Comuners puisent aver plein informacion (& conusance de touz les pursuitz faitez) par le dite John Cavendish s'ils sont loials & profitables a touz les ditz (Comunes ou non).

William Creswyk

Nich' Sunkok

James Cokkes, Cotiller

Richard Turner, Draper

Richard Forster

Stephen Spelman

Six Special  
Commis-  
sioners.

Les queux vi Comuners recordent verite pur nostre seignour le Roy & ses ditz Com(unes).

#### TRANSLATION.

May it please our most dread lord the King and the honourable lords of this present Parliament to ordain that the Mayor and Aldermen and certain Commoners of the City of London hereunder written may meet on a certain day at the Tower of London, or at any other place at the pleasure of our most high lord the King, in the presence of the Earl of Worcester, Lord Lovell, Lord de Say, the Chief Justices of both Benches, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Master John Cheyne, Master Thomas Pikworth, [*illegible*], and John Durward, Esquire, to have full information and knowledge of the truth of all the matters laid before our lord the King by one John Cavendish. And that our said lord the King and his most wise Council may ordain thereon due remedy in support of the good laws, customs, and usages employed within the Franchise of the said City in the time of the most noble King Edward the Third whom God assoil. And if it happen that any lord above-written be absent may it please you to take another in his place that the remedy and execution of the said matters be not delayed. The names of the Commoners are those which follow, that is to say :—

London  
citizens to join  
in the inquiry.

And assemble  
at the Tower.

Places of those  
absent to be  
supplied.

*(Here follow the names of the delegates, as above.)*

The which aforesaid xlviii Commoners may procure full information and knowledge of all the doings of the said John Cavendish, whether they are loyal and profitable to all the said Commons or not.

William Creswyk

Nich' Sunkok

James Cokkes, Cotiller

Richard Turner, Draper

Richard Forster

Stephen Spelman

Six Special  
Commission-  
ers.

The which six Commoners shall make a true record for our lord the King and his said Commons.

#### XXI. PETITION OF THE CUTLERS TO PARLIAMENT.

(1403-4, 5 Henry IV.)

As treshonorables & tressages seigneurs de cest present parlament suppliont humblement vos poueres oratours & Citezonis de londres del Artifice de Cotellarie (*lacuna*) que come eux & leurs predecessours de tout temps ont ouerez or &

Cutlers have  
always worked  
in gold and  
silver on  
knives.

And had  
four Wardens  
to correct  
faults.

The gold-  
smiths seek  
powers of  
oversight.

Cutlers pray  
that they may  
not be  
granted.

argent sur cotelx & baselardes en lour dite artifice & ont evez qatre gardeins deux mesmes eslut (desoutz le maire)<sup>r</sup> du dite Citee & iurrez deuant lui pour amender toux les defautes deinz mesme lartifice et ore tard les orfeurs du dice Citee ont faitz vn suggestion (a vous) nient veritable sicome ils sont informez disant qe les dites Cotellers ont ouerez or & argent nient couenable au tiel entent qe les dites orfeurs aueroient le gouernaunce des dices Cotellers qe serait outre destruccion & subuercion de vos dices oratours qe please a votres tresgracious seigneuries de eaidier voz dices oratours qe lour droit & ffraunchises soient sauez issint qils purront eier (aver) & enioier lour ffraanchise en le manere come ils & lours predecessours ont evez deuant ces heurs & qe nulle chartre soit grante au contrarie pour dieux & en oeure de charite. (*Ancient Petitions*, file 198, no. 9889.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Cutlers have  
always worked  
in gold and  
silver on  
knives.

And had  
four Wardens  
to correct  
faults.

The gold-  
smiths seek  
powers of  
oversight.

Cutlers pray  
that they may  
not be  
granted.

To the very honourable and very discreet Lords of this present Parliament humbly pray your poor petitioners and citizens of London of the craft of Cutlery . . . . Whereas they and their predecessors of all time have worked gold and silver on knives and baselards in their said craft and have had four Wardens elected from themselves under the Mayor of the said City and sworn before him to amend all the defaults within the same craft ; and now lately the Goldsmiths of the said City have made a false suggestion to you, as they are informed, saying that the said Cutlers have worked gold and silver unsuitably, to the intent that the said Goldsmiths should have the government of the said Cutlers which would be the utter destruction and ruin of your said petitioners. May it please your very gracious Lordships to help your said petitioners that their right and franchises may be saved, so that they may have and enjoy their franchise in the same manner as they and their predecessors have had them before now, and that no charter may be granted to the contrary. For God and charity's sake.

#### XXII. GOLDSMITHS' PETITION TO THE KING AND PARLIAMENT.

(1403-4, 5 Henry IV.)

Petition of  
Wardens and  
Commonalty  
of the Gold-  
smiths.

Have had of  
old time search  
of gold and  
silver wares.

Item une Petition feust baille en Parlement de par les Orefeours de Londres en les parols q'enseuent. A nostre tres redoubte & tres souveraine Seigneur le Roy & as tres sages Seigneurs de cest present Parlement, supplient voz humbles lieges, William Grantham, Salamon Oxeneye, Thomas Senyele, & Robert Hall, Citezeins & Orfeours de vostre Citee de Londres & Gardeins del Mistere d'Orfeours de vostre dicte Citee, & toute la Communaltee de mesme la Mistere que come les ditz Gardeins & toutz autres q'ont este Gardeins de la dite Mistere deinz la dite Citee, du temps dont memorie ne court, ont eus & usez d'avoir la serche, surveiu assaie &



governance de tout manere d'Ore & d'Argent oeverez si bien deinz mesme la Citee come aillours deinz vostre Roialme d'Engleterre Et come le noble Roy Edward vostre aiel, que Dieux assoile, sur certaines defautes monstrez a luy & a son Conseil en son Parlement tenuz a Westm' l'an de son regne primere, touchant l'overaigne d'Argent par les Cotellers fait du dite Citee sur Cutelles, granta a les Orfeours de mesme la Citee, q'ils puissent eslire bones gentz & sufficeantz de leur Mistere d'Orfevres, de enquerere & sercher les ditz defautes, & les defautes trovez en la dite Mistere amender & redresser, & due punissement mettre as contrariantz par aide des Maire & Viscontz du dite Citee quant mistere (*sic*) serra. Et ore les ditz Cutellers usont d'oeverer d'Ore & d'Argent en autre manere que ne userent au temps suis dit. Sur quoy par les defautes & subtiltees en l'overaigne des ditz Cutellers grande esclandre & arreisement y purra avener a dite mistere d'Orfeours si remedie ne soit mys. Que pleise a vostre Roiale Mageste grauntir as ditz suppliantz que les ditz Cutellers, n'autres Artificers qeconques, ne usent en apres autre manere d'overaigne d'Ore ou d'Argent q'ils ne userent a temps du Graunte de votre tres noble aiel suis dit. Et outre ceo, de vostre pluis habundante grace grauntir as ditz Gardeins q'ils, & leur successeurs Gardeinz du dite Mistere d'Orfevrie, aient as toutz jours le serche, survieu, assaie, & governance de tout manere d'overaigne oeverez & a oeverer, d'Ore & d'Argent, & deuoiez ou suiss-orrez par ascune persone, de queconque Mistere si bien deinz la dite Citee come aillours deinz vostre dit Roialme, & sur ceo de mettre due punissement & redresse en les overaignes defectives & deceivables, si bien par aide des Maire & Viscontz du dite Citee, quant bosoigne serra, come par aide des Maires, Viscontz, Baillifs, ou autres Officers quelconques aillours parmy le Roialme pur le temps esteantz, qant bosoigne serra, en manere come mesmes les Orfevres ont usez devaut ces heures toutz jours. Reservant a les Seigneurs du Franchises les profitz que a eux puissent perteigner, a cause de tielx faux overaignes issint trovez & provez deinz leur Franchises par les Gardeinz de la Mistere suis dite, pur Dieux, & en oevere de charitee.

Edward III granted them survey of cutlers' silver work.

Cutlers now work differently in gold and silver.

Cutlers and others to be forbidden to work in gold and silver.

Goldsmiths to have search of all such work.

In London and the whole Kingdom.

Saving rights of lords of franchises.

Quelle Petition lue devaut le Roy & les Seigneurs en Parlement, & illeokes pleinement entendue, feust respondue en la fourme q'enseute. Soit si bien le tenure de ceste Petition, come la tenure de la Petition des Cotillers de Londrez baillez en cest Parlement, envoiez par Brief al Meire de la Citee de Londres, & eit mesme le Meire poair par auctoritee de Parlement de faire venir devaut luy si bien les gentz del Mistere d'Orfevrie de Londres, come les gentz del Mistere del Cotellerie ; & monstrez devaut le dit Maire les evidences & usages eus & eusez, si bien de l'une partie come de l'autre, deinz la dite Citee de veil temps passez, & par inquisition ent a faire s'il embosoigne, certifie mesme le Meir au Roy & son Conseil en cest present Parlement saunz delaie ces q'il trovera en ceste matire ; aufyn que mesme

Answer to the petition.

Petition, and that of the Cutlers, referred to the Mayor.

Who is to hear both parties and report to the King and Council.

nostre Seigneur le Roy, eue sur ce deliberation & advys des Seigneurs Espirituelx & Temporelx en Parlement, ent purra faire ceo que mielx luy semblera en celle cas.  
(*Rolls of Parl.*, v. 3, p. 536a.)

TRANSLATION.

Petition of  
Wardens and  
Commonalty  
of the Gold-  
smiths.

Have had of  
old time search  
of gold and  
silver wares.

Edward III  
granted them  
survey of  
cutlers' silver  
work.

Cutlers now  
work different-  
ly in gold and  
silver.

Cutlers and  
others to be  
forbidden to  
work in gold  
and silver.

Goldsmiths to  
have search of  
all such work.

In London  
and the whole  
Kingdom.

Also a Petition was delivered in Parliament on the part of the Goldsmiths of London, in the following words. To our most dread and most sovereign Lord the King, and to the very wise Lords of this present Parliament, pray your humble lieges, William Grantham, Salamon Oxeneye, Thomas Senyele, and Robert Hall, citizens and goldsmiths of your City of London, and Wardens of the Mistery of Goldsmiths of your said City, and all the Commonalty of the same Mistery. Whereas the said Wardens and all others who have been Wardens of the said Mistery within the said City, from time whereof memory runneth not, have had and used to have the search, survey, assay, and government of all manner of works of gold and of silver, as well within the same City as elsewhere within your Kingdom of England. And whereas the noble King Edward, your ancestor, whom God assoil, upon certain defaults shown to him and to his Council in his Parliament held at Westminster in the first year of his reign, touching works of silver done by the cutlers of the said City upon knives, granted to the goldsmiths of the same City, that they might choose good and competent people of their Mistery of Goldsmiths, to inquire into and search the said defaults, and to amend and redress the faults found in the said Mistery, and due punishment to give to the offenders by aid of the Mayor and Sheriffs of the said City, when need should be. And now the said cutlers are wont to work in gold and in silver in a different manner from what they did in the time aforesaid; whereby, through the defaults and subtleties in the work of the said cutlers, great scandal and drawbacks will come to the said Mistery of Goldsmiths if remedy be not applied. May it please your Royal Majesty to grant to the said suppliants, that neither the said cutlers nor any other craftsmen whatsoever, may henceforth use any other kind of work in gold or silver than they used at the time of the grant of your most noble ancestor aforesaid. And further, of your more abundant grace, to grant to the said Wardens that they and their successors, Wardens of the Mistery of Goldsmithry may always have the search, survey, assay, and governance of every kind of work of gold and silver done, and to be done, in time past or in time to come, by any person, of any Mistery whatsoever, as well in the said City as elsewhere within your said Kingdom, and thereupon to impose due punishment and redress on defective and deceptive works, as well by aid of the Mayor and Sheriffs of the said City, as need shall be, as by aid of the Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, or other officers whatsoever, for the time being, elsewhere through the Kingdom, as need shall be, in the same way as the same



Goldsmiths have hitherto always used. Reserving to the lords of Franchises the profits which to them may belong on account of such false works so found and proven within their Franchises by the Wardens of the aforesaid Mistery: for God, and as work of charity.

Saving rights of lords of franchises.

Which Petition, being read before the King and the Lords in Parliament, and there fully understood, was answered in the following terms:—Let the tenor of this petition, as well as the tenor of the petition of the Cutlers of London delivered in this Parliament, be sent by writ to the Mayor of the City of London: and let the same Mayor be empowered by authority of Parliament, to summon before him both the men of the Mistery of Goldsmithry in London and the men of the Mistery of Cutlery, and let them show before the said Mayor the evidences and usages had and used of old times past, as well on the one side as the other, within the said City: and let the same Mayor, by inquisition thereof made if need be, certify to the King and his Council in this present Parliament, without delay, what he shall find concerning this matter: to the end that the same our lord the King, on consideration and advice thereon had of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament, may be able to do that which shall seem best to him in this case.

Answer to the petition.

Petition, and that of the Cutlers, referred to the Mayor.

Who is to hear both parties and report to the King and Council.

### XXIII. DECISION OF KING AND PARLIAMENT ON THE GOLDSMITHS' AND CUTLERS' PETITIONS.

(1st March, 1403-4, 5 Henry IV.)

Sur queux Petitions & Responses Briefs isserent al Meire de la Citee de Londres, si bien pur les ditz Orfeours come pur les ditz Cotellers; desqueux Briefs les tenures s'enseuent.

Petitions sent to the Mayor.

Henricus Dei gratia Rex Anglie & Francie & Dominus Hibernie Majori Civitatis sue London Salutem. Tenorem cujusdam Petitionis coram Nobis in presenti Parlamento nostro per Aurifabros (Cultellarios) Civitatis nostre predictae exhibite, una cum tenore indorsamenti ejusdem Petitionis vobis mittimus presentibus interclusum, Mandantes, ut inspectis tenoribus predictis, ulterius inde fieri fac' prout in hac parte fore videritis faciend', Nos de toto facto vero in premissis in Parliamentum nostrum predictum sub sigillo vestro distincte & aperte sine dilatione reddentes certiores, ut ulterius inde, de avisamento Dominorum tam Spiritualium quam Temporalium in eodem Parlamento, ordinare & disponere valeamus prout melius fore videbitur faciendum, hoc Breve Nobis remittentes. Teste Meipso apud Westm', primo die Martii, Anno regni nostri quinto.

The King's writ.

Mayor to report under his seal.

Queux Briefs feurent retournes en dit Parlement, & respondux severalment par le dit Meire en la fourme q'enseute. Responsio hujus Brevis patet in quadam

Mayor's reply.

Cedula huic Brevi consuta. Virtute duorum Brevium Domini Regis michi, Willielmo Askham Majori London' directorum, & huic Cedule consutorum, Inspectis tenoribus duarum Peticionum dicto Domino Regi in presenti Parlamento suo per Cultellarios & Aurifabros Civitatis predicte separatim exhibitarum, una cum tenoribus indorsamentorum Petitionum earundem huic etiam Cedule consutorum, Venire feci coram me prefato Majore, apud Guyhaldam Civitatis predicte, tam probos homines Misterarum predictarum, quam plures alios & sufficientes homines antiquos singularum Wardarum dicte Civitatis, & monstratis coram Me ibidem per dictas Misteras cartis, irrotulamentis, & evidentiis tam scriptis quam non scriptis, regulam, usum, assayum, & gubernacionem Misterarum predictarum tangentibus & concernentibus, Compertum est coram Majore memorato, quod Cultellarii Cives Civitatis predicte ab antiquo tempore usi fuerunt operari Aurum & Argentum infra Libertatem Civitatis predicte, prout tempus & eorum scientia adtunc exigebant, & adhuc iidem Cultellarii operantur in dicta Civitate Aurum & Argentum, prout tempus & eorum scientia juxta seculi mutacionem exigunt & requirunt. Et quod Custodes Mistere artis Aurifabrorum predictorum qui pro tempore fuerint, per supervisum Majoris & Aldermannorum dicte Civitatis pro tempore existentium, ab antiquo tempore usi fuerunt habere assayum Auri & Argenti per dictos Cultellarios infra dicte Civitatis Libertatem operatorum.

Attendance before him.

Charters and other evidences produced.

Cutlers work in gold and silver.

Goldsmiths have right of assay.

Goldsmiths' charter confirmed with new privileges.

Sur quelles matires nostre dit Seigneur le Roy eue deliberation & advys ovesque les Seigneurs en mesme le Parlement, de l'assent des mesmes les Seigneurs granta as ditz Orfeours confirmation de lour Chartre a eux grauntee par le Roy Edward, aiel nostre Sieur le Roy q'or est, l'an de son regne primere, ove clause de Licet, ensemblement ovesque certains autres Libertees & Franchises come par les ditz Confirmation & Grante, & l'enrollement ent fait en la Chancellerie, y purra apparoir pluis au plein. (*Rolls of Parl.*, v. 3, pp. 536b-537a.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Petitions sent to the Mayor.

On which Petitions and Replies Writs were issued to the Mayor of the City of London, as well for the said Goldsmiths as for the said Cutlers, the terms of the which Briefs follow.

The King's writ.

Henry by the grace of God King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland to the Mayor of his City of London greeting. We send you enclosed by these presents the tenor of a certain Petition presented before Us in our present Parliament by the Cutlers (Goldsmiths) of our City aforesaid, together with the tenor of the endorsement of the same Petition, Commanding that having examined the tenors (of the Petitions) aforesaid, you may see what should further be done in this matter, certifying Us under your seal, clearly, openly, and without delay, concerning the whole truth of the matter in the premisses, in our Parliament aforesaid, that We with the advice of the Lords both Spiritual and Temporal in

Mayor to report under his seal.



the same Parliament, on the return of this Writ to Us, may order and arrange further thereon according as shall seem best to be done. Witness Myself at Westminster, the first day of March, in the fifth year of Our reign.

The which Writs were returned in the said Parliament, and answered severally by the said Mayor in form as follows. The answer to this Writ appears in a certain Schedule to this Writ attached. By virtue of two Writs of the Lord the King to me, William Askham, Mayor of London, directed and to this Schedule attached, Having examined the tenors of two Petitions severally exhibited to the said Lord the King in his present Parliament by the Cutlers and Goldsmiths of the City aforesaid, together with the tenors of the endorsements of the same Petitions to this Schedule also attached, I summoned before me the aforesaid Mayor, at the Guildhall of the City aforesaid, as well the reputable men of the aforesaid Misteries as many other and sufficient men of old standing of each of the Wards of the said City, and there before me were shown by the said Misteries charters, enrolments, and evidences both written and unwritten, touching and concerning the rule, custom, assay, and government of the aforesaid Misteries, and it appeared before the said Mayor, that the Cutlers citizens of the aforesaid City have from ancient time used to work in Gold and Silver within the Liberty of the City aforesaid, as the times and their ability were then wont to require, and the same Cutlers still work in gold and silver in the said City, as the times and their ability according to the change of time require and demand. And that the Wardens of the Mistery of the craft of Goldsmiths aforesaid for the time being, have from ancient time been accustomed, under supervision of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being, to have the assay of gold and silver worked by the said Cutlers within the Liberty of the said City.

Mayor's reply.

Attendance before him.

Charters and other evidences produced.

Cutlers work in gold and silver.

Goldsmiths have right of assay.

On the which matters our said Lord the King, after consideration and counsel had with the Lords in the same Parliament, with the assent of the same Lords, granted to the said Goldsmiths confirmation of their charter granted to them by King Edward, grandfather to our present Lord the King, in the first year of his reign, with clause of Licet, together with certain other Liberties and Franchises as by the said Confirmation and Grant, and the enrolment thereof made in the Chancery, may there more plainly appear.

Goldsmiths' charter confirmed with new privileges.

## XXIV. PETITION OF THE CUTLERS TO THE KING AND PARLIAMENT.

(Undated. Early Henry IV.)

*[This document is defective and in parts illegible ; words supplied from the printed Rolls of Parliament are printed in italics, those within brackets are conjectural additions.]*

Cutlers have  
worked in gold  
and silver.

Their wardens  
have corrected  
faults.

From Edw.  
III's days.

Goldsmiths'  
new charter.

Gives power  
of oversight.

Infringing  
City's rights.

Damaging to  
Cutlers.

Prayer for its  
repeal.

A tresredoute & tresexcellent seigneur nostre seigneur le Roy & as tressages seigneurs de cest present parlement. Supplient les poueres genz del artifice de Cutillers deinz la Citee de loundres *que come ils & leurs predecessours* de mesme le artifice du temps dont memoire ne court eient vsez douerir or & argent (sur Cotelx) dagers & baselardes & tout autre oueraigne a mesme lartifice appendant & este (gouernez dessous) le Maire de londres par quatre gardeins de eux mesmes annuellement esluz & iurez deuaunt le dit (Maire pour) amender touz les defautes de mesme lartifice les queux vsages sont affermez approuez & enrollez en la Guihalle de londres deuaunt le Maire & Aldremannes dicelle sibien en temps (le Roy Edward) aiel nostre tresexcellent seigneur le Roy come en temps le Roy Richard le darrein solonc leffect & pourport de la grande chartre des fraunchises de la Citee suisdicte et eient auxi les ditz *suppliantz* . . . . . ouesque la Communaltee de mesme la Citee a Scotte & lotte & as autres charges a lour poair deinz la Citee auaundicte Nientmoins les orfeours de la dicte Citee purchacerent en le *darrein* . . . . . confirmacion de certains libertees a eux danciens temps grauntez en la quele confirmacion adioustez estoit par nouel graunt en dit parlement que les ditz Orfeours & lour successours a touz iours (eient) les surueue serchee & assaie & gouernance de tout manere dor & argent oueriz ou a ouerir deinz la dicte Citee & en les suburbs dicelle & en les communes feires deinz la roialme (et de punir) & redresser les defautes trouez es ditz oueraignes la ou le punissement & redresse des defautes trouez es dit mestier des Cutillers tousiours appartenoit & doit appartenir au Maire (de la dicte) Citee pour le temps estean par presentement ent a lui fait par les quatre gardeins du dit mestier les queux confirmacion & graunt sils heussent este executez ne tourneroient seulement (a la subuersion) de les libertees & franchises de la dicte Citee mes a final destruccion & deffesance du mestier des Cutillers susditz & serroient en cause de graunt trouble dentre les ditz mestiers & damages irreparables pourroient sourdre que dieu defende Par quoy plese a nostre dit seigneur le Roy & a voz tressages discrecions par consideracion de ceo que auant est dit en cest present parlement de . . . . . les suisditz confirmacion & graunt ensi faitz as ditz Orfeours & dabundant graunter as ditz *suppliantz* qils & lour successours Cutillers a touz iours puissent vser occuper & exercer (lour) mestier aussi franchement & entierment come les ditz *suppliantz* & lour predecessours ont vsez & excercez en temps passe pour dieu & en oeure de charite. (*Ancient Petitions*, file 102, No. 5,070.)



# TRANSLATION.

To the very dread and most excellent lord our lord the King and to the very wise lords of this present Parliament. Pray the poor people of the craft of Cutlers within the City of London, that (although they and their predecessors) of the same craft, from time whereof memory runneth not, have been used to work gold and silver (upon knives), daggers, and baselards, and all other work belonging to the same craft, and to be (governed, under) the Mayor of London, by four wardens from themselves yearly elected and sworn before the said (Mayor to) amend all the defaults of the same craft; the which usages have been confirmed, approved, and enrolled, in the Guildhall of London before the Mayor and Aldermen thereof, as well in the time (of the King Edward) grandfather of our most excellent lord the King, as in the time of the late King Richard, according to the effect and purport of the great charter of the franchises of the City abovesaid; and (although) the said (suppliants) have also (been assessed) with the Commonalty of the same City for scot and lot and for other charges according to their ability within the aforesaid City, nevertheless the Goldsmiths of the said City purchased in the last (Parliament) confirmation of certain privileges granted to them from ancient times, in the which confirmation was added, by new grant in the said parliament, that the said Goldsmiths and their successors for ever (shall have) the survey, search, and assay, and governance of all manner of gold and silver worked or to be worked within the said City and in the suburbs thereof, and in the common fairs within the realm, (and to punish) and correct the defaults found in the said works, whereas the punishment and correction of the faults found in the said craft of the Cutlers always belonged and ought to belong to the Mayor (of the said) City for the time being, by presentment thereof made to him by the four wardens of the said craft; the which confirmation and grant, if they had been executed, would turn not only (to the subversion) of the privileges and franchises of the said City, but to the final destruction and undoing of the craft of the aforesaid Cutlers, and would be cause of great trouble between the said crafts, and irreparable damages might arise, which God forbid. Wherefore may it please our said lord the King and your most wise discretions, in consideration of what has afore been said, in this present Parliament to (revoke) the aforesaid confirmation and grant thus made to the said Goldsmiths, and of abundant (grace) to grant to the said suppliants that they and their successors the Cutlers for ever may use, occupy and exercise (their) craft as freely and wholly as the said suppliants and their predecessors have used and exercised (it) in time past. For God and as work of charity.

Cutlers have worked in gold and silver.

Their wardens have corrected faults.

From Edw. III's days.

Goldsmiths' new charter.

Gives power of oversight.

Infringing City's rights.

Damaging to Cutlers.

Prayer for its repeal.



## XXV. ORDINANCE BETWEEN THE CUTLERS AND SHEATHERS FOR MAKING SEARCH.

(16th August, 1408, 9 Henry IV.)

Ordinacio  
inter

Cultellarios et  
Vaginariorum pro  
Scrutinio  
faciendo.

Cutlers'  
petition to the  
Mayor and  
Aldermen.

They fit and  
sell complete  
knives.

But the trade  
has three  
branches.

Bladesmiths.  
Cutlers.

Sheathers.  
Bad work  
brings dis-  
credit to the  
Cutlers.

Bad work of  
the Sheathers  
has not been  
"presented"  
to the  
Chamberlain.

Masters of the  
Sheathers sent  
for to hear  
these com-  
plaints.

Ordered that  
the Masters of  
the Cutlers  
and Sheathers  
make joint  
search.

Mayor and  
Aldermen to  
fix penalty for  
defaults.

Ordinance  
between the  
Cutlers and  
the Sheathers  
for making  
Search.

Memorandum quod sextodecimo die Augusti Anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum nono Venerunt hic coram Maiore et Aldermannis london tam magistri artis Cultelliariorum dicte Ciuitatis quam alij plures probi homines eiusdem artis eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis cum instancia debita monstrantes quomodo ipsi et eorum predecessores dicte Ciuitatis Cultellarij cultellos integre apparatus & ornatos vendere solebant ementibus quibuscumque. Tamen pro eo quod cultellus per tres artes diuisim fabricatur videlicet primo ferrum per fabros Bladsmithes vocatos, manubrium et alie operationes congruentes per Cultellarios & vagina per vaginarios. Que si bona fiant laus: si vero mala vituperium & scandalum dicte arti Cultelliariorum rependitur & infertur. Et pro eo quod laus (*sic*) siue vituperium dicte arti Cultelliariorum pro defectu vaginarum minus debite confectarum ad dictam artem Cultelliariorum obprobrium non modicum deuenit & scandalum et tam tocius regni quam Communitatis Ciuitatis predicte dampnum manifestum. Super quo dicti magistri et probi homines artis Cultelliariorum predictorum dictos Maiorem et Aldermannos cum instancia debita requesierunt desicut tam dicti vaginarij quam alij plures dicte artis Cultelliariorum vaginas operari nituntur, quarum superuisus correccio vel foris factura per artes predictas totaliter visa vel correcta aut Camerario vt decuit minime sunt presentata ad comune dampnum & dicte artis Cultelliariorum scandalum manifestum. Et super hoc dicti Maior & Aldermanni premissa considerantes venire fecerunt coram eis magistros dicte artis vaginariorum eis premissa notificantes qui deliberacione matura decreuerunt & ordinarunt quod de cetero pro vaginis rite fiendis duo de Magistris Cultelliariorum qui nunc sunt vel pro tempore erunt duos magistros vaginariorum nunc assistentes vel affuturos premunient tempore debito & congruo scrutinium vaginarum per se tantum tam infra artem Cultelliariorum quam vaginariorum predictorum aut aliorum quorumcumque infra regnum Anglie factorum & infra dictam Ciuitatem vendicioni expositarum corrigere superuidere examinare sufficienter & probare: defectus vero si quos inuenerint Camerario Ciuitatis predicte pro tempore existenti indilate presentare sub pena per Maiorem & Aldermannos pro tempore existentes imponenda et vt per eosdem Maiorem & Aldermannos Ciuitatis predicte pro tempore existentes super defectu inuento iuxta eorum summam debita fiat inde punicio. (*Letter Book I, f. 71.*)

### TRANSLATION.

Be it remembered that on the 16th day of August in the 9th year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth after the Conquest there came here, before the Mayor and Aldermen of London, as well the Masters of the trade of Cutlers of the said



city, as many other reputable men of the same trade, shewing unto the same Mayor and Aldermen, with all due urgency, how that they and their predecessors, cutlers of the said city, were wont to sell knives wholly prepared and decorated, to all buyers whatsoever; but that every knife is prepared separately by three different crafts, viz.: first, the blade by the smiths called "Bladsmaythes," the handle and the other fitting work by the cutlers, and the sheath by the sheathers; and that if the articles are good, commendation is the result, but if bad, then blame and scandal falls and is charged upon the said trade of the Cutlers. And seeing that for any default in the sheaths, being not properly made, no little blame and scandal falls upon the said trade of the Cutlers, and manifest damage ensues therefrom, as well to the whole realm as to the community of the City aforesaid; therefore, the said Masters and reputable men of the trade of the aforesaid Cutlers, with all due urgency, represented unto the said Mayor and Aldermen, that as well the said sheathers, as many others of the said trade of Cutlers, applied themselves to making sheaths, of which the supervision, correction, or liability to forfeiture, had been entirely seen to or taken in hand by the crafts aforesaid, or presentation very rarely made thereof to the Chamberlain, as it ought to be; to the common loss, and to the manifest scandal, of the said trade of the Cutlers.

Cutlers' petition to the Mayor and Aldermen. They fit and sell complete knives. But the trade has three branches. Bladesmiths. Cutlers. Sheathers. Bad work brings discredit to the Cutlers.

Bad work of the Sheathers has not been "presented" to the Chamberlain.

And hereupon, the said Mayor and Aldermen, considering the matters aforesaid, sent for the Masters of the said trade of Sheathers, notifying unto them the matters aforesaid; who, after mature deliberation, determined and ordained that in future, for the proper making of sheaths, two of the present or future Masters of the Cutlers should at due and fitting times warn two of the present or future Masters of the Sheathers, for the time being, to make scrutiny of sheaths, by themselves only, as well in the trade of the Cutlers as of the Sheathers aforesaid, or in the hands of any other makers thereof within the kingdom of England, and in the said city exposed for sale; and to correct, oversee, sufficiently examine, and prove the same; and such defaults, if any, as they should find, to present without delay to the Chamberlain of the aforesaid City for the time being, under a penalty by the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being to be imposed; and that by the same Mayor and Aldermen of the aforesaid City for the time being due punishment should be inflicted for default found, according to the extent thereof.

Masters of the Sheathers sent for to hear these complaints.

Ordered that the Masters of the Cutlers and Sheathers make joint search.

Mayor and Aldermen to fix penalty for defaults.

## XXVI. ORDINANCE BETWEEN THE CUTLERS AND BLADESMITHS.

(12th October, 1408, 10 Henry IV.)

Duodecimo die Octobris Anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum decimo Magistri et probi homines Misterarum Cultellariorum & fabrorum Bladesmythes vocatorum Ciues dicte Ciuitatis venerunt hic coram Maiore & Aldermannis, quandam billam verba subsequencia continentem porrigentes:

Ordinacio inter Cultellarios & fabros Bladesmythes vocatos.

Joint petition to the Mayor and Aldermen.

Marks of the Bladesmiths forged by "foreigners."

None to buy knives or blades with forged marks.

Bladesmiths not to raise the price of blades.

Under penalty of 6s. 8d.

Fines to be shared by Masters of the two Mysteries.

Petition granted, and its provisions ordered to be observed.

Ordinance between the Cutlers and smiths called Bladesmiths.

Joint petition to the Mayor and Aldermen.

Marks of the Bladesmiths forged by "foreigners."

None to buy knives or blades with forged marks.

Bladesmiths not to raise the price of blades.

Under penalty of 6s. 8d.

As honourables seignours Mair & Audermans de la Cite de loundres monstrent toutz lez bones gentz des mestiers des Cotellers & Bladesmythes francs de la dice Cite coment gentz foreins de diuerses parties Dengleterre vendent as cotillers & autres du dite Citee tannt bien Cotielx come ferres mercheez des merches semblablez as merches dez bladesmythes francs du dite Cite les queux Cotelx & ferres sonnt fauces & defectifs a tresgraund esclandre dez ditz mestiers des cotillers & Bladesmythes & damage comune. Si please a voz tressages discrecions ordeigner que null du dit mestier de Cotillers de null autre achate decy enauaunt nulle tielx cotelx ou ferres faitz en pais oue merches feignez semblablez tauntbien pur honore des ditz mestiers come pur comune profit de la Cite. Et que le pris des ferres faitz ou affaire deins la dicte Cite ne soit decy enauaunt encrease par lez ditz Bladsmythes sinon par auys des Mestres des Cotillers & Bladesmythes ensemble sur peyne de paier a la Chambre a chescun foitz vjs. viijd. parensy que les mestres des Cotillers & Bladesmythes purrout auoir lun moyte pur departir entre eux pur lour labour. Qua billa lecta & plenius intellecta ad comune commodum publicum sustendandum & dampnum publicum auferendum & pro honestate dictarum Misterarum conseruandum (*sic*) concordatum fuit per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos quod peticio predicta forma qua petitur decetero obseruetur. (*Letter-Book I, f. 71 b.*)

#### TRANSLATION.

On the 12th day of October, in the 10th year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth after the Conquest, the Masters and reputable men of the misteries of Cutlers and smiths called Bladesmythes, citizens of the said City, came here, before the Mayor and Aldermen, and presented a certain petition, containing the words that follow :—Unto the honourable Lords, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, shew all the good folks of the misteries of the Cutlers and Bladesmythes, free of the said City, how that foreign folks, from divers parts of England, do sell unto the cutlers and others of the said City as well knives as blades, marked with marks resembling the marks of the bladesmythes free of the said City ; the which knives and blades are faulty and defective, to the very great scandal of the said misteries of the Cutlers and Bladesmythes, and to the common hurt. May it therefore please your very wise discreetness to ordain, that no one of the said mystery of Cutlers shall buy of any other person from henceforth any such knives or blades made in the country with marks forged in resemblance [of such], as well for the honour of the said misteries, as for the common profit of the City. And that the price of blades made or to be made, within the said City, shall not from henceforth be increased by the said Bladesmythes except by advice of the Masters of the Cutlers and Bladesmythes jointly ; on pain of paying to the Chamber 6s. 8d. each



time; the trades of the Cutlers and the Bladesmythes to have one half thereof to be divided between them for their trouble.

Fines to be shared by Masters of the two Misteries.

Which petition having been read and fully understood, to support the common and public advantage, and to avert damage to the public, as also, for preserving the character of the said trades, it was agreed by the said Mayor and Aldermen that the petition aforesaid should in the form presented be henceforth observed.

Petition granted, and its provisions ordered to be observed.

## XXVII. ARTICLES OF THE MISTERY OF BLADESMITHS.

(26th October, 1408, 10 Henry IV.)

Vicesimo sexto die Octobris Anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum decimo Magistri & probi homines Mistere Fabrorum Bladesmythes vocatorum Ciues Ciuitatis London' venerunt hic coram Maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem Ciuitatis quandam billam articulos subsequentes continentem porrigentes, Primerment pur ceo que plusours del dit mestier sibien deinzseinz comes foreins qui demurrent en foreins venels mandonnt lour oeueraigne a vendre en mucettes en place priue & nemye en place ouerte par cause que la dite oeueraigne nest pas avouable & couenable si que la comunalte est deceu et grauntment endamage. Ordeigne est que nulle del dit mistier ne face apporter nulle faux oeueraigne par les viowes a vendre deinz la dite Citee nen le Suburbe dicelle ne nulle ne voyse Wageraunt deinz la dice Citee nen le Suburbe oue tiel faux oeueraigne. Mais ceux qui vuillent maunder lour oeueraigne a vendre hors de lour maisons ou schopes les mandent & estoient ouertement oue celle oueraigne a vendre a Greschirche ou sur le pauement ioust Seint Nich' Flesshameles ou pres de le tonelle sur Cornhille sur peyne de forfaiture dicelle oeueraigne cestassauoir lun moyte al oeps del Chambre de la Guyhalle & lautre moyte al oeps du dit mestier & de paier al primer foitz qil serra de ceo ency atteint vj. s. viij. d. al secound foitz x. s. al tierce foitz xij. s. iiij. d. et issint a chescun foitz qil serra ency atteint xij. s. iiij. d. appaiers toutz foitz lun moyte dicelle al Chambre suisdice & lautre moyte al dit mestier. Item que chescun du dite mestier qui est oeuerour & faisour des Testes des launces despees daggers ou de cotelx qil face lez pointes & egges dicelle toutz dures & auxi les egges et testes des haches dures dapprouer al assaie sur la peyne del forfaiture dicelle en manere & fourme come deuaunt est especifiez. Item que chescun maistre del dit mestier mette son propre Marche a son oeueraigne come as testes des launces cotelx & haches & autres grosses oeueraignes que homme puisse conustre qui les fist si defaute soit troue en ycelle sur la peyne auauntdice. Item que nulle du dit mestier ne counterfaite autry marche counterfait a son oueraigne mes qil vse & mette son propre merche a son oeueraigne sur la peyne aundite. Item que les mesters du dit mistier queux pur le temps serronnnt eluz facent apporter a la Guyhalle le fauce

Articuli Mistere de Bladesmythes.

False work being sold secretly and not in open places.

It is forbidden to hawk it through the streets.

Those who wish to sell their ware away from their shops must offer it at Gracechurch.

Or on the Pavement, or near the Tun on Cornhill.

Penalties for offending.

Edges of blades must be hard throughout.

Makers to stamp their work with their own marks.

No maker to forge the mark of another.

False work to be brought to Guildhall.

Trade secrets to be kept from journeymen.

Those admitted to be first tested as to their skill in the trade.

None to entice an apprentice or a journeyman from his master.

The above Articles approved and ordered to be kept.

oeueraigne qils trouerount estre fait en mestier destre illoques aiugge en qi mains qil soit troue. Item que nulle du dite mestier nappreigne son alowes les sciences de son dit mestier come il ferroit a son apprentys sur la peyne auauntdice. Item que nulle ne soit enfraunchise en la dice mestier deuaunt qil soit par les gardeins du dice mestier & autres bons gentz de mesme la mestier tesmoigne ne recorde qil soit able de fair & vser la dite mestier sur peyne auauntdice. Item que nulle du dit mestier ne retraye ne purloigne autry apprentys hors del seruice son maister dedeins son terme sur peyne de xx. s. ne nulle lowys hors de seruice son maistre deins son terme sur peyne de vj. s. viij. d. de payer lun moyte dicelle au dit Chambre & lautre moyte al mistier suisdite. Quibus articulis lectis & plenius intellectis ad comune commodum publicum sustentandum & dampnum publicum auferendum & pro honestate conseruanda concordatum fuit per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos quod articuli predicti forma qua petuntur decetero obseruentur. (*Letter-Book I, f. 73.*)

#### TRANSLATION.

Articuli  
Mistere de  
Bladesmythes.

On the 26th day of October, in the 10th year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth after the Conquest, the Masters and reputable men of the Mystery of Smiths, called Bladesmiths, citizens of the City of London, came here before the Mayor and Aldermen of the same city, and presented a certain petition, containing the following Articles :—

False work being sold secretly and not in open places.

In the first place, whereas many persons of the said mistery, as well denizens as foreigners, who dwell in foreign lanes, do send their work for sale secretly in some private place, and not in an open place, because that the said work is not allowable and proper ; so that the commonalty is deceived and greatly damaged thereby : it is ordained, that no one of the said mistery shall cause any false work to be carried through the streets for sale within the said city, or in the suburb thereof ; and that no one shall go wandering about with such false work, within the said city, or in the suburb thereof. But those who shall wish to send their work for sale out of their own houses or shops, are to send the same to, and to stand openly with such work for sale at, Greschirche, or on the Pavement west of St. Nicholas Flesshameles, or near to the Tun on Cornhille ; on pain of forfeiture of such work, that is to say, one half to the use of the Chamber of the Guildhall, and the other half to the use of the said mistery ; and of paying, the first time that a person shall be so convicted thereof, 6s. 8d. ; the second time, 10s. ; the third time, 13s. 4d. ; and so, 13s. 4d. every time that he shall be so convicted ; one half thereof to be paid each time to the Chamber aforesaid, and the other half to the said mistery. Also, that every person of the said mistery, who is a worker and maker of lance-heads, swords, daggers, or knives, must make the points and edges thereof hard throughout ; and also, the edges and heads of axes hard enough to

It is forbidden to hawk it through the streets.

Those who wish to sell their ware away from their shops must offer it at Gracechurch.

Or on the Pavement, or near the Tun on Cornhill.

Penalties for offending.

Edges of blades must be hard throughout.



stand the assay ; on pain of forfeiture thereof, in manner and form as before stated. Also, that every master of the said mistery shall put his own mark upon his work, such as heads of lances, knives, and axes, and other large work, that it may be known who made the same, if default be found therein ; on the pain aforesaid. Also, that no one of the said mistery shall counterfeit the mark of another maker upon his own work ; but let him use and put his own mark upon his own work, on the pain aforesaid. Also, that the Masters of the said mistery, chosen for the time being, shall cause to be brought to the Guildhall such false work as they shall find to be made in the mistery, to be there adjudged upon, in the hands of whatsoever person the same shall be found. Also, that no one of the said mistery shall teach his journeymen the secrets (or knowledge) of his said trade, as he would his apprentice, on the pain aforesaid. Also that no one shall be made free in the said mistery, before that it has been by the Wardens of the said mistery, and the other good folks thereof, attested and recorded that he is able to follow and take up the said mistery, on the pain aforesaid. Also, that no one of the said mistery shall withdraw or entice away the apprentice of another, during his term, from the service of his master, on the pain of paying 20s. ; nor yet any journeyman from the service of his master, within his term, on pain of 6s. 8d. ; one half thereof to be paid to the said Chamber, and the other half to the mistery aforesaid.

Makers to stamp their work with their own marks.

No maker to forge the mark of another.

False work to be brought to Guildhall.

Trade secrets to be kept from journeymen.

Those admitted to be first tested as to their skill in the trade.

None to entice an apprentice or a journeyman from his master.

Which Articles having been read and fully understood, to support the common public good, and to avert damage to the public, and for preserving honesty (of dealing) it was agreed by the said Mayor and Aldermen that the articles aforesaid should in future, in the form in which they were presented, be observed.

The above Articles approved and ordered to be kept.

## XXVIII. DISFRANCHISEMENT FOR FRAUDENTLY OBTAINING THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY.

(1st December, 1413, 1 Henry V.)

ffait a remembr' que le primer iour de Decembre lan du regne le Roy Henry quint puis le conquest primer par lez Gardeins & bones gentz del mistier de Cotillers de la Cite de loundres suggestion feut faite as Mair Audermans & Chamberlein de mesme la Cite que vn William Wysman de Waltham en le Counte dessex' forein feut accepte en la franchise du dice Cite par gentz del mistier de corsours come celluy qui vsoit lour mestier la ou celluy William vsoit encell' temps deuant & puis lart de Cotillers & nonpas le dit mistier de Corsours. Sur quoy le dit William par somounce a luy fait sur la dit compleint vient deuant les ditz Mair Audermans & Chamberlain en la Chambre de Guyhalle de loundres le iij<sup>ce</sup> iour de Decembre dongs' prosch' le quel William a mesme le iour dit & confessa qau temps

Adnullacio libertatis Willielmi Wysman qui fraudulenter venit in libertatem.

de son accepter en la dice fraunchise deuant & apres il vsoit lart de Cotelrye & ne pas le dit mistier de Corsours. Pour quoy parce que le dit William auient a la dice fraunchise en maner suisdice nient duement mais en destemable maner & encountre la custume du dice Citee par les ditz Mair Audermans & Chamberlein agarde feut que celle acceptacion en la dice fraunchise soit tenuz par null' & qil paie pur sez merces & merchaundises desore enauaunt custumes & toutz aultres choses come celluy qest forein & null fraunchise nad en la dice Cite. Et oultre qil reporte au dit Chamberlein la bille qil auoit de sa fraunchise le quel le dit Will' fist mesme le iour &c. (*Letter-Book I*, f. 131.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Annuling the Freedom of William Wysman who came falsely into the Freedom.

Be it remembered, that on the first day of December, in the first year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth after the Conquest, by the Wardens and good folks of the Mistery of Cutlers of the City of London, information was given unto the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain, of the same City, that one William Wysman, of Waltham, in the County of Essex, a foreigner, had been admitted to the freedom of the said City by folks of the Mistery of Coursers, as one who followed their calling; whereas the same William was at that time, and before and since, following the craft of the Cutlers, and not the said trade of Coursers. Whereupon the said William, by summons on him made touching the said complaint, came before the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain, in the Chamber of the Guildhall of London, on the 3rd day of December following; the which William on the same day said and confessed that at the time of his being admitted to the said freedom, and before and after, he was following the craft of Cutlery, and not the said trade of Coursers. Wherefore, because that the said William obtained the freedom in manner aforesaid, not duly, but in a deceitful manner, and against the custom of the said City, by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain, it was awarded that such admission to the said freedom should be held as null, and that he should pay for his wares and merchandizes from thenceforth custom and all other things, the same as one who is a foreigner, and enjoys no freedom in the said City. And further, that he should bring back to the said Chamberlain the writing that he had had of his freedom: which the said William did, on the same day.

#### XXIX. THE FIRST CHARTER OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY.

(4th December, 1416, 4 Henry V.)

Many cutlers impoverished by losses at sea.

Rex Omnibus ad quos etc. salutem. Sciatis quod cum quam plures homines mistere Cultelliariorum Ciuitatis nostre london. ante hec tempora per maris infortunium & alia infortunia casualia ad tantam deuenerint paupertatem & inopiam quod non habeant vnde viuere valeant nisi ex elemosinis Christi fidelium eis



subueniencium eoque pretexto dilecti ligei nostri dicte mistere Ciuitatis predicte in voluntate & proposito existant ordinandi aliquam certitudinem ad honorem Dei pro sustentacione pauperum predictorum. Nos ad premissa consideracionem habentes de gratia nostra speciali concessimus & licenciam dedimus pro nobis & heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est predictis Cultellariis hominibus dicte mistere in Ciuitate nostra predicta quod ipsi de cetero vnam Communitatem perpetuam de se ipsis habeant, et quod eadem Communitas eligere & facere possit Ricardum Wellom magistrum Communitatis & mistere predictarum Martinum Godard & Johannem Chadde custodes dictarum Communitatis & mistere pro vno anno & sic quolibet anno vnum Magistrum & duos Custodes de hominibus predictarum Communitatis & mistere ad superuidend' & gubernand' easdem misteram & Communitatem & omnes homines personas ac eorum negocia imperpetuum. Et vlterius de vberiori gratia nostra concessimus & licenciam dedimus pro nobis & heredibus nostris predictis prefatis Magistro Custodibus et Communitati quod ipsi & successores sui Magistri Custodes & Communitas mistere predicte pro tempore existentes acquirere possint terras tenementa & redditus ad valorem viginti librarum per annum tam in Ciuitate nostra predicta quam in suburbiis eiusdem habend' & tenend' eisdem Magistro Custodibus & Communitati & successoribus suis in auxilium & supportacionem pauperum hominum Communitatis & mistere predictarum imperpetuum iuxta ordinacionem & disposicionem Magistri Custodum & Communitatis ac successorum suorum in hac parte faciendam Statuto de terris & tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis edito siue aliquo alio statuto ante hec tempora in contrarium facto aut eo quod dicte terre tenementa siue redditus in Ciuitate nostra predicta & suburbiis eiusdem sic adquirendas de nobis in Burgagio teneantur sicut tota Ciuitas nostra predicta tenetur non obstante. In cuius etc. Teste Rege apud Westm' quarto die Decembris per ipsum Regem. (*Patent Roll*, 4 Hen. V, membrane 7.)

Men of the  
Mistery desire  
to help.

Licence to  
become a  
perpetual  
Commonalty.

Master and  
two Wardens  
appointed.

Licence to  
hold lands.

To the value  
of 20l. yearly.

Statute of  
mortmain not-  
withstanding.

#### TRANSLATION.

The King to all to whom etc. greeting. Know ye that since many men of the Mistery of Cutlers of our City of London in times past by misfortune at sea and other unfortunate chances have reached so great poverty and need that they have not means of livelihood except from the alms of Christ's faithful people coming to their help, and on this ground our beloved lieges of the said Mistery of the City aforesaid are minded and propose to ordain some certainty to the honour of God for the support of the aforesaid poor people. We having consideration of the premises of our especial grace have granted and given licence, on behalf of us and our heirs as much as in us lies, to the aforesaid Cutlers men of the said Mistery in our City aforesaid that they henceforth may have one perpetual Commonalty of themselves and that the same Commonalty may elect and make

Many cutlers  
impoverished  
by losses at  
sea.

Men of the  
Mistery desire  
to help.

Licence to  
become a  
perpetual  
Commonalty.

Master and  
two Wardens  
appointed.

Licence to  
hold lands.

To the value  
of 20l. yearly.

Statute of  
mortmain not-  
withstanding.

Richard Wellom Master of the aforesaid Commonalty and Mistery Martin Godard and John Chadde Wardens of the said Commonalty and Mistery for one year, and so in each year one Master and two Wardens from the men of the Commonalty and Mistery aforesaid to oversee and govern the same Mistery and Commonalty and all the men their persons and trades for ever. And further of our more abundant grace we have granted and given licence on behalf of us and our heirs aforesaid to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty that they and their successors Masters Wardens and Commonalty of the aforesaid Mistery for the time being may acquire lands tenements and rents to the value of twenty pounds yearly as well in our City aforesaid as in the suburbs of the same, To have and to hold to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for the aid and support of the poor men of the aforesaid Commonalty and Mistery for ever, according to the ordinance and regulation of the Master Wardens and Commonalty and their successors in that respect to be made, notwithstanding the Statute promulgated for not placing lands and tenements in mortmain or any other statute made to the contrary in times past, or that the said lands tenements or rents in our City aforesaid and the suburbs of the same so to be acquired should be held from us in Burgage as our whole City aforesaid is held. In witness etc. Witness the King at Westminster the fourth day of December (1416). By the King himself.

XXX. A SIXTEENTH CENTURY LIST OF THE COMPANIES, WITH  
SUPPOSED DATES OF INCORPORATION. (*See pp. 122-3.*)

The Antiquitie of the Corporacons of divers Companys of the Citie of London as they ar vppon record in the Towere of London. (Cutlers' Company's *Precept Book*, f. 1b.)

(*The date in the year of Our Lord is intended to be that of the King's Accession.*)

	Weavers. E. 1. 1271.	Vynteners. 15 H. 6.
pri	Diers. E. 3.	Brasiers. 16 H. 6. 1422.
	Taillors and Jackmakers, called	Tanners & Tawyers. 17 H. 6.
	lynnen Armorers. 17 E. 3.	parishe Clarcks. 20 H. 6.
	Skynners. 18 E. 3. 1326.	Lethersellers. 22 H. 6.
	Drapers. 38 E. 3.	Haberdashers. 26 H. 6.
pr.	Girdlers. R. 2.	pri Barbor surgeons. E. 4.
	Gouldsmiths. R. 2.	Tallowchaundlers. 2 E. 4.
	Saulters. 18 R. 2. 1377.	Iermongers. 3 E. 4. 1460.
	ffishmongers. 22 R. 2.	Pewterers. 13 E. 4.
	Cutlers. H. 5. 1412.	Carpenters. 17 E. 4.
	Mercers. 3 H. 6.	Cooks. 22 E. 4.
	Grocers. 7 H. 6.	parsons & vicars a fraternite.



XXXI. GRANT BY JOHN PARKER AND THOMAS KYNTON,  
CITIZENS AND CUTLERS, TO JOHN SWALWE AND STEPHEN  
HERMER, CUTLERS. (28th March 1417, 5 Henry V.)

Omnibus ad quos presens scriptum indentatum peruenerit Johannes Parker & Thomas Kynton Ciues & Cultellarii london salutem in domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos prefatos Johannem et Thomam dedisse concessisse & hoc presenti scripto nostro indentato confirmasse Johanni Swalwe & Stephano Hermer Ciuibus & Cultellariis dicte Ciuitatis quendam annum redditum quinque marcarum Sterlingorum dedisse & concessisse eciam prefatis Johanni Swalwe & Stephano quatuor virgas panni coloris tociens quociens sicut Magister & Custodes ffraternitatis Mistere Cultellariorum qui pro tempore fuerint de vestura pro ffraternitate predicta communit' ordinat' vestiant' & de eadem secta habend' & tenend' ac percipiend' eisdem Johanni Swalwe & Stephano ac assignatis eorum ad terminum vite Martini Godard Ciuis & Cultellarii eiusdem Ciuitatis & Marione vxoris eius & eorum alterius diucius viuentis de omnibus terris & tenementis nostris cum omnibus suis pertinentibus que nos cum alijs nuper coniunctim habuimus ex dono & feoffamento Johannis Askwyth Ricardi Pulle Thome Ermyn & Johannis Smyth Ciuium & Cultellariorum dicte Ciuitatis in parochiis Omnium Sanctorum de Bredestrete Sancti Johannis Euangeliste & Sancti Augustini in Watlingstrete london et de toto illo tenemento cum omnibus suis pertinentibus quod nuper habuimus ex dono & feoffamento dicti Martini in Warda de Dowegate in parochia Sancti Michaelis de Paternosterchirche in Riola london ad quatuor anni terminos principales in Ciuitate london vsuales per consuetudinem Ciuitatis predictae per equales porciones. Et si contigat dictum annum redditum quinque marcarum vel quatuor virgas panni Coloris in parte vel in toto vltra aliquem terminum terminorum predictorum aretro fore non solum quo solui debeat extunc bene liceat prefatis Johanni Swalwe & Stephano & assignatis eorum in omnibus predictis terris & tenementis cum suis pertinentibus intrare & distringere districciones quos licite asportare fugare & retinere quousque de omnibus arreragijs predictus redditus eis plenarie fuerit satisfactus & persolutus. Et si contingat dictum annum redditum quinque marcarum vel predictas quatuor virgas panni coloris in parte vel in toto per quindecim dies post aliquem terminum solum (*sic*) aretro esse non solum extunc bene liceat prefatis Johanni Swalwe & Stephano & assignatis eorum in omnibus predictis terris & tenementis cum omnibus suis pertinentibus & in qualibet parcella eorundem videlicet pro qualibet solutione sic deficiente tociens quociens fuerit intrare & distringere districciones quos asportare & retinere pro summa viginti solidorum quousque satisfactio fuerit de tali solutione simul cum dampnis occasione ea non solut' inde apposit' & fact'. Et nos predicti Johannes Parker & Thomas & heredes nostri totum predictum annum redditum quinque marcarum sterlingorum

Scriptum in-  
dentatum  
Johanni  
Swalwe &  
Stephano  
Hermer Cul-  
tellariis per  
Johannem  
Parker &  
Thomam  
Kynton  
Cultellarios.

& quatuor virgas panni coloris prefatis Johanni Swalwe & Stephano & assignatis eorum ad terminum vite predictorum Martini & Marione & eorum alterius diucius viuentis contra omnes gentes Warantizabimus & defendemus per presentes. De quo quidem redditu prefatos Johannem Swalowe & Stephanum per solutionem sex denariorum posuimus in plenam possessionem & seisinam. In cuius rei testimonium tam sigilla nostra predictorum Johannis Parker & Thome quam sigilla dictorum Johannis Swalwe & Stephani huic presenti scripto indentato alternatim sunt appensa hijs testibus Salomone Oxney Aurifabro Edmundo Mille Scriptore Johanne Smyth Cissore Cuiibus london' & alijs. Dat' london' vicesimo octauo die mensis Marcij Anno regni Regis Henrici quinti post conquestum Anglie quinto. (*Husting Roll* 145, 6.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Indenture to  
John Swalwe  
and Stephen  
Hermer,  
cutlers, by  
John Parker  
and Thomas  
Kynnton,  
cutlers.

To all to whom the present writing of indenture shall come John Parker and Thomas Kynnton, citizens and cutlers of London (send) greeting eternal in the Lord. Know ye that we the aforesaid John and Thomas have given, granted, and by this our present writing of indenture have confirmed, to John Swalwe & Stephen Hermer, citizens and cutlers of the said City, a certain annual rent of five marks sterling (and that we) have likewise given and granted to the aforesaid John Swalwe and Stephen four yards of cloth of such colour and as often as the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Mistery of Cutlers for the time being are clothed with, from the clothing prescribed in common for the Fraternity and from the same suit. To have and to hold and to take to the same John Swalwe and Stephen and their assigns for the term of the life of Martin Godard citizen and cutler of the same City and Marion his wife and of either the longer liver, from all our lands and tenements with all their appurtenances which we jointly with others lately had of the gift and feoffment of John Askwith, Richard Pulle, Thomas Ermyn, and John Smyth, citizens and cutlers of the said City, in the parishes of Allhallows Bread Street, St. John the Evangelist, and St Augustine, in Watling Street London, and of all that tenement with all its appurtenances which we lately had of the gift and feoffment of the said Martin in the Ward of Dowgate in the parish of St. Michael Paternosterchurch in the Riola London, by equal portions at the four principal terms of the year usual in the City of London by the custom of the City aforesaid. And if it happen that the said annual rent of five marks or the four yards of coloured cloth in part or in the whole be in arrear and unpaid beyond any term of the terms aforesaid in which it ought to be paid, it shall then be lawful for the aforesaid John Swalwe and Stephen and their assigns to enter upon all the aforesaid lands and tenements with their appurtenances and make distrains which they may lawfully carry away withdraw and keep until full satisfaction and payment be made to them for all the arrears of the aforesaid rent. And if it happen that



the said annual rent of five marks or the aforesaid four yards of coloured cloth in part or in the whole be in arrear and not paid for fifteen days after any term of payment, then it shall be lawful for the aforesaid John Swalwe and Stephen and their assigns to enter upon all the lands and tenements aforesaid with all their appurtenances and upon any portion of the same, to wit for any payment so lacking as often as it shall be so lacking, and make distrains which they may carry away and keep to the amount of twenty shillings until they shall be satisfied for such payment together with the losses by occasion of the non-payment thereof thereunto appointed and made. And we the aforesaid John Parker and Thomas and our heirs will warrant and defend by these presents against all men all the aforesaid rent of five marks sterling and the four yards of coloured cloth to the aforesaid John Swalwe and Stephen and their assigns for the term of the life of the aforesaid Martin and Marion and of either the longer liver. In full possession and seisin of the which rent we have put the aforesaid John Swalwe and Stephen by the payment of six pence. In witness whereof to this present writing of indenture have been alternately affixed both the seals of us the aforesaid John Parker and Thomas and the seals of the said John Swalwe and Stephen, these being witnesses Salomon Oxney goldsmith, Edmund Mille writer, John Smyth tailor, citizens of London, and others. Given at London, the twenty-eighth day of the month of March in the fifth year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth after the Conquest of England.

XXXII. REFORMATION OF DIVERS EXCESSES AND DEFECTS IN  
THE MISTERY OF CUTLERS. (6th July, 1420, 8 Henry V.)

Reformatio  
diuersorum  
excessuum &  
defectuum in  
Misterra de  
Cotillers.

Memorandum quod cum diuerse lites discenciones & discordie de diu mote fuerant exorte inter magistros & custodes Mistere Cultellariorum Ciuitatis london ex vna parte & Communitatem dicte Mistere ex altera super eiusdem Mistere Magistrorum & Custodum eleccionis animaduersione (*sic*) ordinacionum irrationabilium confeccione plurimorum finium & amerciametorum iniuriosa leuacione & bonorum dicte Mistere per certos Magistros & Custodes eiusdem hactenus iniusta disposicione pro quarum litum discencionum et discordiarum reformatione Sexto die Julij anno regni Regis Henrici quinti post conquestum octauo Ricardus Whityngton Maior & Aldermanni ad instanciam Comunitatis Mistere predicte pro eo quod Curia ad hec vocare (*sic*) non potuit assignarunt duas personas prouidas et indifferentes videlicet Willielmum Estfeld & Johannem Abbot merceres ad audiendam & examinandam in presencia Willielmi Multon Ricardi Hatfeld Thome Warde & Johannis Whestowe proborum hominum de dicta Misterra Cultellariorum tocius facti veritatem in hac parte & de omni eo quod magistros aliquos vel Custodes dicte Mistere preteritos per iniustas expencionem disposicionem aut

Complaint by  
the Common-  
alty against  
the Masters  
and Wardens.

Two Com-  
missioners  
appointed by  
the Mayor  
and Aldermen  
to hold an  
inquiry.

To report as to the irregularities and propose a remedy.

They report as to the chief causes of the troubles.

Unreasonable orders in the book of the Mistery.

Secret choice and election of Masters and Wardens.

A statement of accounts, from rent, fines, &c., required.

Arrears of 33l. iijs. iiijd. ordered to be paid.

Common Sergeant claims half of the fines for the City.

The other half ordered to be paid to the Mistery.

Unreasonable ordinances in the book of the Mistery to be annulled.

leuacionem bonorum Mistere predicte fact' in arreragiis reperire poterunt ad ordinacionem vel determinacionem aliquam inde iuxta discreciones suas faciend' & tam de ordinacionibus & determinacionibus huiusmodi quam de omnibus alijs defectibus et mesprisionibus ob defectum bone gubernacionis in dicta Mistera hactenus habitis hic huic Curie reportandis erga duodecimum diem Octobris tunc proxime sequentis etc. Qui quidem Willielmus Estfeld & Johannes Abbot postea ad eundem duodecimum diem reportarunt hic coram dictis Maiore & Aldermannis quod magna occasio litium discencionum & discordiarum predictarum extitit confectio plurimarum irrationabilium rerum & ordinacionum in libro Mistere predicte hic huic Curie prolato contentarum & quod maxima causa omnium litium discencionum & discordiarum predictarum fuit & est priuata et separalis electio Magistrorum et Custodum dicte Mistere quam sex vel octo eiusdem Mistere communiter annuatim faciunt inter se sine scitu vel assensu residue Communitatis Mistere predicte. Et similiter reportarunt hic quod ipsi miserunt Ricardum Wellom Johannem Chadde Martinum Godart Willielmum Graunger Johannem Munt Johannem Parkere & Petrum Tomere nuper Magistros & Custodes Mistere predicte ad computandum coram eis de omnibus denariorum summis tam ex redditu Mistere predicte pertinente quam ex finibus amerciammentis & alijs exitibus quocumque pretexto per eos de temporibus suis susceptis vel leuatis vsque ad nonum diem Octobris vltimi preteriti super quo compoto predicti Ricardus Wellom Johannes Chadde Martinus Godart Willielmus Graunger Johannes Munt Johannes Parker & Petrus Tomere remanserunt de arreragijs Communitati dicte Mistere in xxxiiij l. iijs. iiij d. sterlingorum quos ijdem Willielmus Estfeld & Johannes Abbot iudicarunt infra octo dies post festum Omnium Sanctorum tunc proxime sequi soluend' &c prout per certas indenturas tripertitas super determinacione compoti predicti factas & hic huic Curie prolatas patenter declaratur et super hoc adtunc & ibidem pro eo quod maior pars denariorum predictorum ex finibus & amerciammentis prouenit sicut per particulas Compoti apparet que quidem fines & amerciammenta Camere Guyhalde ad opus Communitatis Ciuitatis &c de iure pertinerent petitum fuit per Johannem Weston communem seruientem legis dicte Ciuitatis quod omnes denarii predicti vel saltem medietas inde ad dictum opus conuertatur. Et Communitas Mistere predicte pro tunc existens ibidem concessit medietatem predictam occasione premissa Communitati london pertinere & solui. Et super hoc per dictos Maiores & Aldermannos quo ad arreragia predicta consideratum fuit quod vna medietas inde Communitati Ciuitatis London & altera medietas Communitati dicte Mistere remaneat soluend' ad dies predictos. Et quoad irrationabiles ordinaciones in libro dicte Mistere contentas consideratum est quod omnes ordinaciones in libro predicto contente preter illas que per hanc Curiam autorizantur & intrantur in eadem de recordo revocentur cassentur & adnullentur.



t quo ad pacificam eleccionem Magistrorum & Custodum de cetero faciendam in Mistera predicta consideratum est quod Communitas dicte Mistere de cetero singulis annis circa festum Trinitatis in honesto loco sicut solebant infra dictam Ciuitatem honesto modo conueniant & ibidem racionabiliter & pacifice sine murmure nominent & eligant Magistros & Custodes suos pro anno tunc futuro. Et eos hic huic Curie presentent ad Capiendum Sacramentum suum sicut Magistri aliarum Misterarum annuatim faciunt & accipiunt &c. Et quia eleccio huiusmodi quiecius fore videtur facienda si prius auctoritate Curie ducatur in exemplum. Ideo per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos iniunctum est communitati dicte Mistere quod vicesimo primo die Octobris tunc proxime sequi conueniant in aliquo loco congruenti infra Ciuitatem & ibidem coram prefatis Willielmo Estfeld & Johanni (*sic*) Abbot eleccionem faciant de Magistro & Custodibus Mistere predicte et ipsos sic electos hic huic Curie presentent ad iurandum & faciendum vt premittitur (*sic*). Et dictum est prefatis Willielmo Estfeld & Johanni Abbot quod modum & formam inde reportent hic ad eundem diem. Ad quem diem venit hic Communitas dicte Mistere & similiter dicti Willielmus & Johannes Abbot venerunt qui reportarunt quod eodem vicesimo primo die Octobris in quodam hospicio vocato Marnersynne in parochia sancte Marie de Aldermanbury london' tota Communitas dicte Mistere honorabiliter congregata modo pacifico elegit Willielmum Multon in Magistrum ac Ricardum Hatfeld & Johannem Whestowe in Custodes dicte Mistere Cultellariorum ad standum in officiis predictis a dicto die &c. vsque ad festum sancte Trinitatis tunc proximum & abinde vsque ad festum Trinitatis tunc proxime sequi per vnum annum integrum petentes ipsos admitti &c. secundum &c. Et super hoc prefati Willielmus Multon Ricardus Hatfeld & Johannes Whestowe admissi fuerunt & Jurati ad bene fideliter superuidendam Misteram predictam & omnes bonas regulas & ordinationes eiusdem &c. custodiendas & custodiri faciendas ac defectus in eadem Mistera repertos hic huic Curie reportandos nulli parcendo pro fauore nec aliquem grauando per maliciam &c. Qui quidem Magister & Custodes postea simul cum probis hominibus dicte Mistere pro bono & honestate totius Mistere predicte prouiderunt certos articulos & eos in quadam billa Maiori & Aldermannis hic porrexerunt petentes introitum eorundem de recordo sibi concedi. De quibus quidem articulis certi subscripti sibi concessi sicut de cetero obseruandi hec intrari iussi de recordo.

Commonalty  
to elect  
Master and  
Wardens.

The two Com-  
missioners to  
supervise next  
election.

Election  
quietly held at  
Marners' Inn.

The new  
Master and  
Wardens  
sworn and  
admitted.

New Articles  
presented by  
the Mistery  
for approval.

Certain of  
them approved  
and confirmed.

In primis videlicet quod nullus de cetero fiet vel eligetur in Magistrum vel Custodem Mistere predicte nisi talis qui liber fuerit Ciuitatis per Natiuitatem vel Apprenticietatem in Mistera predicta deseruitam & hoc sub pena Centum solidorum soluendorum vnam Medietatem ad opus Communitatis Ciuitatis predicte & alteram Medietatem in elemosinam ad releuacionem pauperum de Mistera predicta &c.

No one to  
to be elected  
Master or  
Warden,  
unless free by  
patrimony or  
apprentice-  
ship.

No Master or Warden to be re-elected within five years after serving.

Item quod nullus dicte Mistere a tempore quo semel Magister vel Custos extiterit per quinque annos integros postmodum in Magistrum vel Custodem eiusdem Mistere reeligatur prouiso semper quod bene liceat Communitati dicte Mistere si voluerit eligere vnum de Custodibus suis in Magistrum non obstante quod nuper perantea fuerit Custos eiusdem Mistere.

Power to the Master and Wardens to call assemblies of the Livery and Freemen.

Item quod Magister & Custodes Mistere predicte qui pro tempore erunt habeant sufficientem potestatem & auctoritatem quotiens opus fuerit & necesse ad venire faciendum per summonicionem vel aliter coram eis in aliquo loco competenti infra Ciuitatem omnes vsitantes Misteram predictam tam illos qui sunt infra liberatam & vesturam dicte Mistere quam extra & ad ipsos onerandos & onerari faciendos deseruando & manutenendo omnes bonas & licitas ordinationes dicte Mistere per hanc Curiam approbatas. Item quod omnis liber homo & femina de dicta Mistera presto veniat ad huiusmodi summonicionem sibi factam sub pena xij d. in forma predicta participanda & soluenda quociens defaultam fecerit in premissis nisi rationabiliter fuerit excusatus. Item quod nullus de mistera predicta capiat in apprenticium aliquam personam nisi sit libere natiuitatis & condicionis ac formosus in statura habens membra recta & decencia & quod sit plene etatis iuxta formam statuti de apprenticijs nuper editi apud Cantebrigiam sub pena xl s. participanda & soluenda in forma predicta. (*Letter-Book I*, f. 258 b.)

Penalty for disobeying the summons.

Apprentices to be of full age and physically fit.

#### TRANSLATION.

Reformation of divers excesses and defects in the Mistery of Cutlers.

Complaint by the Commonalty against the Masters and Wardens.

Two Commissioners appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen to hold an inquiry.

Be it remembered that whereas sundry strifes, dissensions and quarrels had for long been excited and had arisen between the Masters and Wardens of the Mistery of Cutlers of the City of London on the one part and the Commonalty of the said Mistery on the other part with respect to irregularity in the election of Masters and Wardens of the same Mistery, making unreasonable ordinances, the unjust levy of numerous fines and penalties, and the wrongful disposal hitherto of the goods of the said Mistery by certain Masters and Wardens of the same, for the reformation of which strifes dissensions and differences on the sixth day of July in the eighth year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth after the Conquest Richard Whityngton Maior and the Aldermen at the urgent request of the Commonalty of the aforesaid Mistery, since it was impossible to summon a Court for these matters, appointed two prudent and impartial persons namely William Estfeld and John Abbot, mercers, to hear and examine in the presence of William Multon Richard Hatfeld Thomas Warde and John Whestowe reputable men of the said Mistery of Cutlers (concerning) the truth of the whole matter in this respect, and concerning all that they can discover as to arrerages caused by certain past Masters or Wardens of the said Mistery by unjust outlay, disposal, or levy of the goods of the aforesaid Mistery; with a view to making some order or settlement thereof according to



their judgments, and as well concerning such orders and settlements, as concerning all other defects and misprisions hitherto existing in the said Mistery from the absence of good government : report to be made here to this Court by the twelfth day of October then next ensuing &c. And afterwards on the same twelfth day William Estfeld and John Abbot reported here in the presence of the said Mayor and Aldermen that a great cause of the aforesaid strifes dissensions and quarrels was the making of very many unreasonable matters and ordinances contained in the book of the aforesaid Mistery here produced to this Court, and that the chief cause of all the strifes dissensions and quarrels aforesaid was and is the private and secrete election of Masters and Wardens of the said Mistery which six or eight of the same Mistery make annually altogether among themselves without the knowledge or assent of the rest of the Commonalty of the aforesaid Mistery. And they likewise reported here that they sent for Richard Wellom, John Chadde, Martin Godart, William Graunger, John Munt, John Parker, and Peter Tomere, late Masters and Wardens of the aforesaid Mistery, to account before them for all the sums of money as well from rent belonging to the Mistery aforesaid, as from fines amerçiements and other proceeds received or levied by them, under whatsoever pretext, during their periods (of office) up to the ninth day of October last past ; on which account the aforesaid Richard Wellom, John Chadde, Martin Godart, William Graunger, John Munt, John Parker, and Peter Tomere, remained 34 l. 3s. 4d. sterling in arrear to the Commonalty of the said Mistery which the same William Estfeld and John Abbot ordered to be paid within eight days after the feast of All Saints then next following, as by certain indentures tripartite made at the settlement of the aforesaid account and here produced to this Court plainly is declared. And furthermore, since the greater part of the aforesaid money came from fines and amerçiements, as by the details of the account appears, which fines and amerçiements of right belonged to the Chamber of the Guildhall to the use of the Commonalty of the City &c., it was then and there claimed by John Weston Common Serjeant of Law of the said City that all the money aforesaid or at least half thereof should be applied to the said use. And the Commonalty of the aforesaid Mistery for the time being, there (assembled), agreed that the moiety aforesaid, under the circumstances, should belong and be paid to the Commonalty of London. Whereupon it was considered by the said Mayor and Aldermen with regard to the aforesaid arrears that one half thereof should remain to the Commonalty of the City of London and the other half to the Commonalty of the said Mistery to be paid at the days aforesaid. And as to the unreasonable ordinances contained in the book of the said Mistery it was resolved that all ordinances contained in the aforesaid book, except those which are authorised by this Court and entered in the same of record, be revoked

To report as to the irregularities and propose a remedy.

They report as to the chief causes of the troubles.

Unreasonable orders in the book of the Mistery.

Secret choice and election of Masters and Wardens.

A statement of accounts, from rent, fines, &c., required.

Arrears of 33l. iijs. iiijd. ordered to be paid.

Common Serjeant claims half of the fines for the City.

The other half ordered to be paid to the Mistery.

Unreasonable ordinances in the book of the Mistery to be annulled.

Commonalty  
to elect  
Master and  
Wardens.

The two Com-  
missioners to  
supervise next  
election.

Election  
quietly held at  
Marners' Inn.

The new  
Master and  
Wardens  
sworn and  
admitted.

New Articles  
presented by  
the Mistery  
for approval.

Certain of  
them approved  
and confirmed.

No one to be  
elected  
Master or  
Warden,  
unless free by  
patrimony or  
apprentice-  
ship.

abolished and annulled. And in order to provide in future for the peaceable election of the Masters and Wardens in the aforesaid Mistery it was resolved that the Commonalty of the said Mistery should in future assemble in goodly fashion every year about the Feast of Trinity in a goodly place, as they were accustomed, within the said City, and there reasonably and peaceably without complaint nominate and elect their Masters and Wardens for the year then ensuing, and present them here to this Court to take their oath as the Masters of other Misteries annually do and take &c. And since it appears that an election of this kind would be conducted more quietly if it were held first by authority of this Court for an example, it is therefore by the said Mayor and Aldermen enjoined upon the Commonalty of the said Mistery that on the twenty-first day of October then next ensuing they meet in some suitable place within the City, and there in the presence of the aforesaid William Estfeld and John Abbot make the election of a Master and Wardens of the aforesaid Mistery and present those so elected here to this Court to be sworn and admitted as is prescribed. And the aforesaid William Estfeld and John Abbot were directed to report the manner and form thereof here on the same day. On the which day there came hither the Commonalty of the said Mistery and likewise came the said William (Estfeld) and John Abbot who reported that on the same twenty-first day of October the whole Commonalty of the said Mistery, being honourably assembled in a certain inn called Marnersynne in the parish of St. Mary Aldermanbury London, peaceably elected William Multon as Master and Richard Hatfeld and John Whestow as Wardens of the said Mistery of Cutlers to continue in the aforesaid offices from the said day &c. until the feast of the Holy Trinity then next ensuing, and from thence until the Feast of the Holy Trinity then next ensuing for one whole year, praying that they might be admitted &c. according &c. And thereupon the aforesaid William Multon, Richard Hatfeld, and John Whestowe were admitted and sworn well and truly to oversee the aforesaid Mistery and to keep and cause to be kept all the good rules and ordinances of the same and the defects found in the same Mistery to make known here to this Court sparing none for favour nor injuring any by malice &c. Afterwards the Master and Wardens together with the reputable men of the said Mistery provided certain articles for the welfare and credit of the whole Mistery aforesaid and presented them here to the Mayor and Aldermen in a certain petition praying that the entry of the same of record might be granted to them. Of the which articles certain hereunder written were granted them as to be observed henceforth ; these were ordered to be entered of record, namely :—

First, that no one in future shall become or be elected as Master or Warden of the aforesaid Mistery but such as are free of the City by birth or by apprenticeship served in the aforesaid Mistery, and this under penalty of one hundred



shillings payable one half to the use of the Commonalty of the City aforesaid and the other half as alms for the relief of the poor of the aforesaid Mistery &c.

Also that no one of the said Mistery be re-elected afterwards as Master or Warden of the same Mistery for five whole years from the time when he was once Master or Warden, provided always that it may be lawful to the Commonalty of the said Mistery to elect if it pleases one of its Wardens as Master notwithstanding that he may have recently in time past been Warden of the same Mistery.

No Master or Warden to be re-elected within five years after serving.

Also that the Master and Wardens of the aforesaid Mistery for the time being shall have sufficient power and authority, as often as need and necessity require, to call before them, by summons or otherwise in some suitable place within the City, all who practise the aforesaid Mistery, as well those who are in the Livery and Clothing of the said Mistery as (those) without, and to charge them and cause them to be charged with the observance and maintenance of all the good and lawful ordinances of the said Mistery approved by this Court.

Power to the Master and Wardens to call assemblies of the Livery and Freemen.

Also that every man and woman free of the said Mistery shall immediately attend on receipt of such summons under penalty of 12d. to be divided and paid in form aforesaid as often as he shall make default in the premises, unless he have reasonable excuse.

Penalty for disobeying the summons.

Also that no one of the aforesaid Mistery take any person as apprentice unless he be of free birth and condition and comely in stature, having straight and graceful limbs and that he be of full age according to the tenor of the Statute of Apprentices lately made at Cambridge under penalty of 40s. to be divided and paid in form aforesaid.

Apprentices to be of full age and physically fit.

### XXXIII. ATTENDANCE OF THE COMPANIES AT THE FUNERAL OF KING HENRY V. (1422.)

[The original is much decayed and in many places illegible.]

Hec est prouisio facta per Willielmum Waldern Maiorem & Aldermannos erga aduentum cadaveris siue corporis Illustrissimi & victoriosissimi Principis domini Henrici quinti nuper Regis Anglie . . . dis Regent ffrancie dudum obientis apud Vyncent Boys in ffrancia sepeliendi apud Westmonasterium videlicet quod mundatis vicis Ciuitatis & Burgi de Suthwerk Maior Vicecomites Recordator Aldermanni & omnes officarij ac sufficienciores persone tocius Communitatis nigris induti vestimentis vnacum triscentis torticibus per triscentas personas albis vestitas togis & copicijs portandis vsque Barram sancti Georgij pedester graderentur & ibi mansuete salutarent corpus sequentes illud prima die vsque ecclesiam sancti Pauli vbi (*illegible*) essent exequijs funeralibus ibidem & secunda die vsque Westmonasterium, &c. Et prouisus est similiter quod per totum istum vicum postibus

Provisio facta versus aduentum Cadaveris Regis Henrici quinti.

siue s[tul]pis ad finem pontis versus Suthwerk situat' vsque cornerium quadriuij de Estchepe torticiij q(*illegible*)s singule ecclesie & valide persone Wardarum Pontis Billyngesgate (*illegible*)eren f(*illegible*)s illuminat' ex vtraque parte vici. Et quod Capelli omnium ecclesiarum & Capellarum infra [dictas] Wardas (*illegible*) optimis & ditissimis capis suis induti deferent' thuribila auri vel argenti in manibus quales (*illegible*) distincti & diuisi starent in hostio ecclesiarum versus dictum vicum (*erasure*) cantantes solempniter antiph(*illegible*) S(*illegible*) uenite & thurificantes corpus dum pertransiret. Consimili que modo fieret per Wardas (Dowgate?) langbourn Algate Portsoken & lymstrete a cornerio dicti quadriuij de Estchepe vsque (*illegible*) de Cornhill et per Wardas de Cornhill Bradstrete Walbroke & Vintrye a Cornerio de qu(adriuij) (*illegible*) vsque lestokkes et per Wardas de Colmanstrete Bassieshawe Bredstret & Baynardcas (*illegible*) de lestokkes vsque magnum conductum et per Ward (*sic*) de Chepe Cordewanerstrete Crepilgate (*illegible*) (Aldri)che-gate a dicto magno conductu vsque hostium occidentale ecclesie sancti Pauli &c. Hec sunt nomina (*illegible*) (torti)ciorum quorum reliquie non expense Misteris vnde fuer' remanebant &c.

Mercers . . .	xij Tortic'	Peautrers . . .	vj Tortic'
Grocers . . .	xij T	Diers . . .	vj T
Drapers . . .	xij T	Armorsers . . .	vj T
Pelters . . .	xij T	Shermen . . .	iiij T
Vinters . . .	xij T	Salters . . .	iiij T
Pissoners . . .	xij T	Girdelers . . .	iiij T
Taillours . . .	xij T	Haberdasshers . . .	iiij T
Irmongers . . .	viiij T	Cotillers . . .	iiij T
Orpheours . . .	viiij T	Barbours . . .	iiij T
Sadellers . . .	viiij T	Glouers . . .	iiij T
Bruers . . .	viiij T	ffoundours . . .	iiij T
Bochers . . .	viiij T	Brasyers . . .	ij T
Cordewaners . . .	viiij T	Hatters . . .	ij T
Wexchandelers . . .	vj T	Peyntours . . .	ij T
Chandelers . . .	vj T	ffullers . . .	ij T
fflecchers & } . . .	vj T	Summa . . .	CCxj torches.
Bowyers }			

No<sup>a</sup>.

Et nota quod Camerarius ad custas Communitatis dedit singulis portitoribus torticiorum predictorum vnam togam & capucium de Blanqueto &c. (*Letter-Book* K, f. 1 b.)

#### TRANSLATION.

Provision  
made for the  
arrival of the  
body of King  
Henry the  
Fifth.

This is the provision made by William Waldern, Mayor, and the Aldermen for the arrival of the corpse or body of the most illustrious and most victorious Prince, the Lord Henry the Fifth, late King of England, . . . Regent of France,



lately deceased at Vyncent Boys (Bois de Vincennes) in France, to be buried at Westminster; namely, that after the thoroughfares of the City and the Borough of Southwark have been cleansed, the Mayor, Sheriffs, Recorder, Aldermen, and all the officers, and the more sufficient persons of the whole Commonalty, clad in black vestments, together with three hundred torches borne by three hundred persons clothed in white gowns and hoods, shall proceed on foot up to St. George's Bar, and there tenderly salute the corpse, following it the first day to St. Paul's Church, where (they shall attend) the funeral solemnities, and the next day to Westminster, &c. And it was likewise provided that through the whole of that street from the posts or stulps situate at the end of the Bridge towards Southwark as far as the cross-ways of Eastcheap torches . . . . . of every church, and substantial persons of the Wards of Bridge, Billingsgate . . . . . lighted (torches) on either side of the way. Also that the chaplains of all churches and chapels within the said Wards shall stand at the door of the churches facing the said street robed in their best and richest vestments, bearing in their hands censers of gold and silver . . . . . solemnly and antiphonally chanting the . . . . . and Venite and cense the corpse on its passage. In like manner shall be done through the Wards of Dowgate, Langbourn, Aldgate, Portsoken, and Limestreet from the corner of the said cross-ways of Eastcheap to the . . . . . of Cornhill, and through the Wards of Cornhill, Broad Street, Walbrook, and Vintry, from the corner of the cross-ways of . . . . . to the Stocks and through the Wards of Coleman Street, Bassishaw, Bread Street, and Castle Baynard . . . . . of the Stocks to the Great Conduit, and through the Wards of Cheap, Cordwainer Street, Cripplegate, . . . . . Aldersgate, from the said Great Conduit to the west door of the Church of St. Paul, &c. These are the names . . . . . of torches, the remains of which, unconsumed, were retained by the Misteries providing them, &c. (The list of Misteries follows.) Total, 211 torches.

And note that the Chamberlain at the expense of the Commonalty gave to each bearer of the aforesaid torches a gown and hood of blanket. NOTE.

#### XXXIV. ORDER FOR THE SHEAR GRINDERS.

(6th December, 1423, 2 Henry VI.)

For as mochell as here to fore many dayes þe makyng and gryndyng and oþer apparaillyng of Shermennes sheres hath stond and stondeth in poccupacion and exercise of tweyn or thre persones atte most withynne þis Cite Whiche for þeir singuler profitt and comone harme haue taken and taken fro day to day so excessiflich for þeir occupacion aboute þe making grinding and apparailing of suche shermen sheres þat it is shame and dole for to here Wherefore þe vj day of Decembre þe yere of Kyng Henry þe sixte after þe conquest second William

Ordinacio de Shermen sheres.

Only two or three men of the trade.

Their excessive charges.

Mayor and Aldermen fix charges.

2s. for gisting and grinding a pair of shears.

8d. for grinding and setting only.

Shermen to provide two men to turn the stone.

Wardens of the Shermen to settle disputes.

Grinders to repair shears at the Shermen's houses.

And be ready to attend them at all times.

Crowmer Meir and Aldermen of þe Cite of London hauyng consideracion as well to þe comone proffit as to þestate and resonable gayne and getyng of suche Sheregrinders be gode aduys after ripe comunicacion hadde with þe worthy of þe craftes of Drapers and Shermen in þe seide Cite Han ordeyned þat no Sheregrynder from þis day forward take more for a paire of newe Sherys gisting and gryndyng þan ijs. And whan þe same Shere hath ben vsed a xiiij or xv dayes þan þe Sheregrynder shall glace þe forseid newe Sheres at his owne coste and make hem able to werk and þan he be well and trewly paide for his labour And for an other shere redy gisted þei to haue for þe gryndyng and setting vijjd. and no more for a peire And þan þe owener to haue hem home and prove hem v or vj dayes if þei be well do And when þei be well and profitably do þei to be paied for her trauaill And also accorded is be þe forseid Meir and Aldermen þat þe forseid Shermen of London shull fynde at alle tymes whiles her sheres be a gryndyng or amending two men to tourne þe ston Also awarded is be þe same Meir and Aldermen þat if any strif or debate falle betwen þe seid Shermen and Sheregrynders for none paiement þat þan þe Sheregrinders shull pleyne to þe Wardens of þe Shermen being for þe tyme And þei shull do hem to be paied or elles paye hem himself with ynne thre dayes next after her compleynt vpon peyne of xls. to be paide to þe Chambre of þe yildhall of London as often as þei renne in þe payne And at alle tymes it is ordeyned be þe same Meir and Aldermen þat þe Sheregrynders shull go home to þe Shermenhous and there to sette and amende alle maner defautes longyng to here Sheres except only þe gryndyng And þei to be well and trewly paide as it is a forseid Also accorded is be þe same Meir and Aldermen as touching other Sheres þat be crakked flaved or fawty be negligence of þe oweners or eny of hise for alle suche Sheres þe Sheregrynders to take for hem as þe seide Shermen and Sheregrynders mowe accorde And also it is accorded by þe saide Mair and Aldermen þat þe same Sheregrynders be and shull be redy at alle tymes when þei godely mowe and be resonably required to serue þe saide Shermen in gryndyng and amending of her Sheres on peyne abouesaide &c. (*Letter-Book K*, f. 14b.)

XXXV. CUTLERS' COMPANY'S RECORDS. ROLLS OF MASTER AND WARDENS' AND RENTER'S ACCOUNTS.

(From 1442-3 to 1498-9.)

1442-3	20-21	Henry VI.	1452-3	30-31	Henry VI.
1443-4	21-22	Henry VI.	1453-4	31-32	Henry VI.
1444-5	22-23	Henry VI.	1456-7	34-35	Henry VI.
1449-50	27-28	Henry VI.	1458-9	36-37	Henry VI.
1450-1	28-29	Henry VI.	1459-60	37-38	Henry VI.



1461-2	1-2 Edward IV.	1478-9	18-19 Edward IV.
1462-3	2-3 Edward IV.	1479-80	19-20 Edward IV.
1464-5	4-5 Edward IV.	1480-1	20-21 Edward IV.
1465-6	5-6 Edward IV.	1483-4	1 Edward V.-1 Richard III.
1467-8	7-8 Edward IV.	1484-5	1-2 Richard III.
1468-9	8-9 Edward IV.	1485-6	2 Richard III.-1 Henry VII.
1469-70	9-10 Edward IV.	1486-7	1-2 Henry VII.
1470-1	10-11 Edward IV.	1489-90	4-5 Henry VII.
1471-2	11-12 Edward IV.	1492-3	7-8 Henry VII.
1473-4	13-14 Edward IV.	1494-5	9-10 Henry VII.
1474-5	14-15 Edward IV.	1496-7	11-12 Henry VII.
1475-6	15-16 Edward IV.	1497-8	12-13 Henry VII.
1476-7	16-17 Edward IV.	1498-9	13-14 Henry VII.
1477-8	17-18 Edward IV.		

Renter's Accounts. 1681-2, 1696-7, 1702-3, 1703-4, 1735-6.

#### XXXVI. RENT-GATHERERS OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY.

(1442-3 to 1492-3.)

1442-3	John Catour.
1458-9	Robert Pykmere (Catour elected Master).
1468-9	William Seton (Pykmere elected Master).
1470-1	John Aleyn (Seton elected Master).
1473-4	William Vale (Aleyn appointed Clerk).
1480-1	John a Chamber (Vale elected Master).
1484-5	William Hertwell.
1489-90	Simon Newyngton (Hertwell elected Master).
1492-3	Edmond Mannyng (Newyngton elected Master).

#### XXXVII. EARLIEST EXTANT ACCOUNT OF THE COMPANY.

(Trinity Eve 1442 to Trinity Eve 1443. 20 & 21 Henry VI.)

This is the Accomptes of William Broun Maister of the Craft of Cotillers of london and of William Bronkeley and John Parker Wardeyns of the same Craft fro the fest of the Trinite the xx yere of the reigne of King Henry the vj<sup>te</sup> vnto the fest of the Trinite than next suyng the xxj<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of the same kyng that is to say by a hole yere.

ffirst resceyued of John Dey in part of payment of xxvijs. behynde

for William Smyth and John Bygwode his apprentices . . . . . vjs. viijd.

*Item* receyued of John Roos in partie of payment of vjs. viijd. behinde

for Nicholas Thomeson his apprentice . . . . . ijs. iiijd.

<i>Item</i> receyued of John Welles of arrerages for William Stanes his apprentices ( <i>sic</i> ) . . . . .	xiijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Godyngbrigge in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behynde for Robert Holy his apprentice . . . . .	xs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Archer in partie of payment of xs. behynde for his Entree . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Thomas Otehill in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behinde for William Seton his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Chilton in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behinde for Richard Arker his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Richard Asser and John Amell vndertakers for xxs. due to the Craft by James Beaugraunt for Thomas Baron his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Amell in part of payment of xls. behinde for John Payn and Walter Pilsty his apprentices . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Marchal in payment of xls. behynde for John Sylverton and Thomas Siluerton his apprentices . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Summa . . . . .	iiij li. iijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of the bretherhode of the said Craft for their quarterage by the said yere of this present accomptes . . . . .	lvjs.
Summa . . . . .	lvjs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of William Bode for his Entre . . . . .	xs.
Summa . . . . .	xs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of the ffullers for the hire of the hall . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of the Smythes for the hire of the hall . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued for the hire of the vessell longing to the Craft of Cotillers . . . . .	vijs.
Summa . . . . .	xxs. iiijd.
Summa totalis of the Charge . . . . .	viiij li. ix. viijd.
Whereof payed for the hire of a Barge to Westm' with the Sherryfs this yere . . . . .	iiij s.
<i>Item</i> for C flaget bought this yere for the vse of the Craft . . . . .	iijs. viijd.
<i>Item</i> payed for the scouryng of the vessell of the Craft . . . . .	ijs. iiijd. oþ
<i>Item</i> payed Chaungyng of a Saltsaler . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> payed for ij wipyng clothes . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> payed for the makyng of an hole in a post for a brake . . . . .	jd.
<i>Item</i> payed to the players atte Conyfest . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for the Soper of iij almes men atte Conyfest . . . . .	xijd.



<i>Item</i> paid for brede and wyne at the election . . . . .	xviij.
<i>Item</i> payed to the Clerk of Whityngtons College for his quarterage by the yere . . . . .	xviij.
<i>Item</i> payed for talliage of the said hall of the Craft . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> payed for a peir of laton Candelstikes given to Charterhous .	xvijs.
<i>Item</i> payed to John Kirton of almes for a hole yere after xd. by the weke . . . . .	xlijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> paid to Walter Spenser of Almesse for a hole yere after xd. by weke . . . . .	xlijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> payed to John Norton of Almesse for a hole yere after iiij. by weke . . . . .	xvijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> payed to Anneys Humfrey of Almes for an hole yere after iiij. by weke . . . . .	xvijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> payed to William Reynold wexchaundeller for wex . . . .	xxs. viij.
<i>Item</i> payed to William Broke wexchaundeller for wex . . . .	xjs. jd.

*Summa* . ix li. viijs. xd. ob.

<i>Item</i> the said Maister and Wardeyns askyn allowance for the dyner of the Clerk of Seynt Martyns . . . . .	xij.
<i>Item</i> for the dyner of the Clerk of Pater noster Chirch . . . .	xij.
<i>Item</i> for the dyner of iij Almesmen . . . . .	iijs.
<i>Item</i> for the Obite holden at Seynt Martyns . . . . .	xiijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> for the Offeryng at Charterhous . . . . .	xs.
<i>Item</i> for money given to Thomas Warner of Almes . . . . .	xiijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> in allowance for the expenses of the said Maister and Wardeyns at the dyner . . . . .	xls.
<i>Item</i> for the hode of Sir John Stiward . . . . .	vijs.
<i>Item</i> for the writyng of this accomptes . . . . .	iijs. iiij.

*Summa* iiij li. xiijs.

Summa of all the paymentes & allowances xiiij li. xxij. ob. and so the payments & allowances excede the Receites Cxijs. ijd. ob. the which is due to the accomptantz by the Craft.

Here foloweth the charge of the rentes pertenying to the said Craft.

ffirst the said accomptantes receyued of John Shether of arrerages of his ferme of the yere passed . . . . .	iijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Edward ffrenssh in part ( <i>sic</i> ) of payment of xlvs. viij. behinde of arrerages of rent . . . . .	xlvs. viij.

*Summa* ls.

<i>Item</i> receyued of John Shether Skynner for the terme of his rent in the pariss of Seynt John of Walbroke by a hole yere . . . .	xxs.
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<i>Item</i> receyued of William Crompe Skynner for the ferme of a tenement in the same parissh by the said yere . . . . .	xiijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Coke for a tenement in the parissh of Paternoster Chirch by the said yere . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Eland for a tenement in the same parissh by the said yere . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Mabell Rocheford for a tenement in the same parissh by the said yere . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Alice Cangborne for a tenement there by the same yere . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Rankyn for a tenement in the parissh of Alhalowe in Watlyngstrete by the said yere . . . . .	iiij li.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Walter Lyghtfote for a tenement in the same parissh by the said yere . . . . .	xxxiijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Richard Benton for a tenement there by the same yere . . . . .	lxxiijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of Edward ffrenssh for a tenement there by the said yere . . . . .	iiij li. xiijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> receyued of John Kayle Peyntour for a tenement there by the said yere . . . . .	xls.
<i>Item</i> receyued of William Costantyne for a tenement there by the said yere . . . . .	xxxiijs. iiijd.
Summa . xxiiij li. vjs. viijd.	
Summa totalis of the Charge of the Rent with ls. of the Arrerages xxv li. xvjs. viijd.	
Whereof paied to the Guyldhall for quyte rente by a yere . . . . .	iiijs.
<i>Item</i> paied to Seynt Gyles for quyte rent by a yere . . . . .	viijs.
<i>Item</i> paied in costes of reparacion of the hous that John Shether dwelleth in that is to say: ffirst to a laborer by a day brekyng down a Chymeney . . . . .	vd. ob.
<i>Item</i> for a mauntelshide for a Chymeney there . . . . .	viijd.
<i>Item</i> for a post and a Traunsom to bere the mauntelshide . . . . .	xijd.
<i>Item</i> for a logge of iiij fote and an half and for a somer & a post . . . . .	xd.
<i>Item</i> for a Quarter pece to bere vp the ende of the Somer . . . . .	iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for v long Quarterpeces for the Chymney . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for iiij quarterpeces for traunsoms and Braces . . . . .	xvjd.
<i>Item</i> for a plate . . . . .	iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for nayles . . . . .	iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for iij quarterpeces . . . . .	xijd.
<i>Item</i> for ij Quarterpeces . . . . .	viijd.



<i>Item</i> for Spykynges . . . . .	ijd. ob.
<i>Item</i> for ij quarterpieces . . . . .	vijjd.
<i>Item</i> for a bord and an ende of a borde . . . . .	ijjd.
<i>Item</i> for vj peny nayle . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> paied to a Carpenter for his Werkmanship . . . . .	iijs. iijjd.
<i>Item</i> paied for ij lode lombe (loam) . . . . .	vijjd.
<i>Item</i> for ij lodes Sonde . . . . .	xd.
<i>Item</i> for a lode and iiij Sakkys Lyme . . . . .	xxd.
<i>Item</i> for ij m <sup>l</sup> (2000) Sprigge . . . . .	xvjd.
<i>Item</i> for iiij c (300) Saplath . . . . .	xvd.
<i>Item</i> for lathes . . . . .	jd.
<i>Item</i> paied to ij Dawbers by iiij dayes . . . . .	vs. vijjd.
<i>Item</i> paid to a laborer by iiij dayes . . . . .	xxijd.
<i>Item</i> to a laborer by ij dayes . . . . .	xjd.
<i>Item</i> paid to a plommer for mendyng of a Goter in the hous of John Shether . . . . .	iiijjd.
<i>Item</i> for lath and nayll . . . . .	ijd. ob.
<i>Item</i> for cc of Rofnayll (200 roof nails) . . . . .	ijd. ob.
<i>Item</i> to a Tyler and his man, by a day . . . . .	xiiijjd.
<i>Item</i> for a Water borde for the said Chymeney . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> paied in expenses of reparacion atte hous of Edward ffrenssh that is to say for the mendyng of a peyntys . . . . .	vijjd.
<i>Item</i> paied for a borde for a fflore in the same hous . . . . .	jd.
<i>Item</i> for nayll . . . . .	ob.
<i>Item</i> paied in expenses of reparacion in the hous of John Rankyn that is to say for lath nayll and tyle pynnes . . . . .	ijjd.
<i>Item</i> for ix sakkys lyme . . . . .	xvijjd.
<i>Item</i> to ij Tylers and to ij laborers by a day . . . . .	ijs. vjd.
<i>Item</i> for the caryng away of iij lode Ruboys (rubbish) . . . . .	ixd.
<i>Item</i> xxv lb dj. (25½ lbs.) of lede and for the mending of a Goter in the same Hous . . . . .	ijs. jd. ob.
<i>Item</i> paied in expenses of reparacion of the hous of Alys Cangborne that is for to say for a lok and a key . . . . .	vijjd.
<i>Item</i> in expenses of reparacion in the hous of John Kayle, Peyntour, that is to say for two Sakkys lyme . . . . .	iiijjd.
<i>Item</i> to a Tyler and his man by a day . . . . .	xiiijjd.
<i>Item</i> for ij lodes lombe . . . . .	xijd.
<i>Item</i> in expenses of reparacion in the houses of the said John Kayle, William Costantyne, Edward ffrenssh, & Richard Benton that is to say for iij sakkys lyme . . . . .	vijjd. ob.

<i>Item</i> for a lode lombe . . . . .	iiijd.
<i>Item</i> for strawe . . . . .	ij.
<i>Item</i> for lath and Nayll . . . . .	vjd.
<i>Item</i> to a dawber by iiij dayes . . . . .	ijs. xd.
<i>Item</i> to a laborer for iiij dayes . . . . .	xxij.
<i>Item</i> for a Sak of lyme . . . . .	ijd. ob.
<i>Item</i> for ij quarterpeces . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for ij bordes for a wyndowe . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for legges and a Traunsome . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> for nayll . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> to a Carpenter by a day . . . . .	viiij. ob.
<i>Item</i> for ij keyes to the bak gate of the hall . . . . .	vjd.
<i>Item</i> for a key to the botery dorre . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for mendyng of a lokke to the hall dorre . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> for a holowe key to a Chest . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for a ryng of Iron . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for the mendyng of a lok to the bedelles Chambre dorre . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> for vj haspes and xij staples to the Shop of Edward ffrenssh . . . . .	xij.
<i>Item</i> for a Garnet to the same Shop . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for a hoke and a staple to the same Shop . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for a new lok and a key to the Corner hous next the hall dore . . . . .	viiij.
<i>Item</i> for a newe key to the hous next Waynesford . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for a hasp and ij staples to the same dore . . . . .	ijd.
<i>Item</i> for a Garnet to the Cupbord . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for ij grete hokes for Bentons dorre . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for a Shovell to the hall . . . . .	iiij.
<i>Item</i> for cariyng of v lode Ruboys from the hall . . . . .	xvjd.
<i>Item</i> payed to the Rakyer for Quarterage by a yere . . . . .	viiij.
<i>Item</i> payed in potacions . . . . .	iiij.

Summa . lxxiijs. ix. ob.

<i>Item</i> paid to the Bedell for his clothyng . . . . .	xs.
<i>Item</i> for his hors hire atte Mairs Ridyng . . . . .	viiij.
<i>Item</i> for clothes wasshing . . . . .	vjd.
<i>Item</i> for the fe of John Catour Rentgaderer for this yere* . . . . .	xiijs. iiij.
<i>Item</i> in expenses at Tavern vpon Counsell ayenst Edward ffrenssh . . . . .	ix. ob.
<i>Item</i> for a peir Endentures bitwix William Costantyne plegge for the said Edward and the Craft . . . . .	ijd.

Summa . xxvs. ix. ob.

\* John Catour was renter but does not appear as the accountant until the year 1456. See p. 149.



Somme of all the paymentes and Expenses iiij li. xixs. vijd. and so there is due of the Rent and arrerages xx li. xvijs. jd.

Wherof John Shether oweth . . . . .	xiijs. iiijd.
Mabile Rocheford . . . . .	vs.
Walter lyghtfote . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Edward ffrenssh . . . . .	xxiijs. iiijd.
The accomputantes . . . . .	xviiij li. viijs. ix.

Of the which xviiij li. viijs. ix. the said Maister and Wardeyns ask allowance of cxixs. ijd. ob. of the surplusage of their accomptes above. And so ther is clerly due to the Craft xij li. xvjs. vjd. ob. The which the seid Maister and Wardeyns haue paied to the Craft vpon this accomptes And so they be quyte. But ther is due of arrerages of apprenticehodes and entres—xiiij li. xiijs.

ffirst by John Dey behinde of William Smyth and John Bygwode his

apprentices . . . . .	xxjs. iiijd.
John Roos for Nicholas Thomesson his apprentice . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
. . . . Godynbrygge for Robert holy his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
John Archer behinde of his entre . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Hugh Kenneston behind for (erasure) . . . . .	xxs.
Thomas Pakeman for Gregory Walker his apprentice . . . . .	xvjs. viijd.
John Sanston for (blank) his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Thomas Otehill for . . . . Seton his apprentice . . . . .	xs.
John Shilton for Richard Arker his apprentice . . . . .	xs.
Gefferey Guybon for (blank) his apprentice by obligacion . . . . .	xxs.
Richard Whitchere for Richard Bekenshaw his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
John Trege for John Daborn his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
John Amel for John Payn and Walter Pilsty his apprentices . . . . .	xxxiijs. iiijd.
John Marchall for John Silvertone and Thomas Silvertone his apprentices . . . . .	xxxiijs. iiijd.
Richard Asser for Robert (blank) his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
John Hosyer for William Rys otherwise called William Prentys his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
<i>Item</i> the same John of arrerages of his entre . . . . .	vs.

Summa . xiiij li xiijs.

There is due by John Chilton that come in this yere for his entre . xs.

Summa . xs.

This money is due to the Craft for the newe apprentices that come in p<sup>th</sup> yere.

ffirst John Grygge prentice with William Smyth . . . . .	xxs.
Richard Otehill prentice with Thomas Otehill . . . . .	xxs.
John Lane apprentice with John Lane . . . . .	xxs.

John Huchons apprentice with John Howys . . . . .	xxs.
John Hert prentice with Thomas Hamond . . . . .	xxs.
Richard lekevey prentice with Robert Pykmere . . . . .	xxs.
Summa . . . . .	vj li.

Summa totalis due to the Craft of arrerages of apprentices and entrees of old tyme  
and of this same yere . . . . . xx li iijs.

### XXXVIII. EARLY ACCOUNTS OF THE COMPANY.

(Trinity 1497 to Trinity 1498. 12 & 13 Henry VII.)

This ys thaccompt of William Seton Maister of the Crafte of Cotelers of London and Thomas Chamberleyn and Thomas Pykmere Wardeyns of the same Crafte ffrom the ffeest of the Holy Trynyte In the xij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry 8<sup>e</sup> vij<sup>th</sup> vnto the same ffeest of the Holy Trynyte In the xiiij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of the same Kyng 8<sup>e</sup> ys to sey by one hole yere.

#### Interesse of new Brethern and Sisters.

ffyrst receyved of John Messenger for his interesse into the said Crafte . . . . .	xs.
Summa . . . . .	xs.

#### Receyts of arrerage of interesse of brethern and Sisters

ffyrst receyvid . . . . .	nil.
Summa . . . . .	nil.

#### Quarterages of the brethern and sisters.

Item receyvid of the Brethern and sisters of the said Craft for theyr quarterages within the tyme of this accompt . . . . .	xlijs.
Summa . . . . .	xlijs.

#### Interesse of apprentices.

Item receyvid of Maren Garet for William Phillip his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of William Wall for Roger Marche his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of harry howden for John ffanclyffe his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of John Richardson for Robert Wyndeowte his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of Mr. Seton for harry Tanner his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of Mr. Newyngton for John Dove his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of hugh Rycheman for Richard Wilkynson his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of John Whytyngton for Thomas Danyell his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' rec' of Gilyce Goulde for John Benyson his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Summa . . . . .	iiij. li.



Receyts of arrerage of interesse of apprentices.

Item receyvid of . . . . .	nil.
Summa . . . . .	nil.

ffynes and forene Receyts.

Item receyvid of (*sic*)

Summa of all the sayd Receyts ys . vli. xijs.

Whereof paid for C fagot for the hall this yere . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
It' paid for barge hyre whan the Shryves went to Westm' and for a rewarde gevyn to the bargemen . . . . .	vijs. viijd.
It' paid to John Bull Clerke of the Crafte for his yeres wages . . . . .	xls.
It' paid to the Raker for this yere . . . . .	viijd.
It' paid to the prioresse of Clerkenwell for quyte rente for this yere at Michelmas . . . . .	ijs.
It' paid for barge hire whan the Maire went to Westm' and for a rewarde gevyn to the bargemen . . . . .	vijs. viijd.
It' for russhes for the barge the same tyme . . . . .	iiijd.
It' for the dyner at the hall whan the maire went to Westm' . . . . .	xijs. iijd. ob.
It' paid for hangyng vp of the best cloth at Cristmas . . . . .	ijd.
It' paid to the Clarke of Whittingtons collage for his yeres wages . . . . .	xvjd.
It' for holme and Ive for the hall at Cristmas . . . . .	ijd.
It' paid to the Bedill of the warde for a yere at Cristmas . . . . .	iiijd.
It' paid for the obite done at Whittingtons collage for the Brethern and susters of the said Crafte . . . . .	xiijs. iiijd.
It' paid for xiiij quarters of colys for the hall this yere . . . . .	vs. vd.
It' paid for the play at the Cony ffeeste . . . . .	vijs.
It' for the dyner of the Master of the College and his Company . . . . .	xvjd.
It' for the dyner of Mr. Chamberleyn and his Company . . . . .	xvjd.
It' for the dyner of Agneys Jacom Alice Walton Kateryn ball and Emmot Asser . . . . .	xvjd.
It' for the dyner of John Collard and John Aylemer and their wyfes . . . . .	xvjd.
It' for the players messe of mete . . . . .	xvjd.
It' spent at taueren vppon the Councell of my lady of Clarkenwell for the voide grounde on the bak' side of the hall . . . . .	vjd. ob.
It' paid for the grete wyker for the hy deyce . . . . .	vijs. xd.
It' paid for takyng downe of the best cloth after Cristmas . . . . .	ijd.
It' paid for mending of the Canstykes at Charterhous . . . . .	ijs. viijd.
It' paid for wyne at Taueren whan the answeere was gevyn to the Armerers for Powle . . . . .	vjd.
It' paid for a payre of Ivery knyves with vyralls of siluer and lokked and chaped gilt gevyn to the lady of Clarkenwell . . . . .	ijs. viijd.

It' paid for a payre of endentures of coveauntes made betwene the said lady of Clarkenwell and vs for the voide ground . . . .	ijs.
It' paid for the Covent seall of Clarkenwell . . . . .	xs.
It' for a rewarde gevyng to the Steward of Clarkenwell . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
It' for a payre of Ivery knyves for his wyf . . . . .	viijd.
It' for expences at tavern aboute the same besynes . . . . .	xd.
It' paid for dressyng and mendyng of the litill gardeyn . . . .	vjd.
It' paid for hangyng vp of the best cloth on trynyte evyn . . . .	ijd.
It' paid for bonbrede and for ij gallons of bastard on Trynyte evyn at the eleccion . . . . .	ijs. ijd.
It' paid for scoryng of vj doseyn Jely disshes . . . . .	vd.
It' paid for brede and ale that day the obite was kept at powles for the Kyng of ffraunce . . . . .	ijd. ob.
It' paid for taynter hokes for the hall . . . . .	ijd.
It' for offeryng at Charterhous on Trynyte Sondag . . . . .	xs.
It' paid to the sexten ther for kepyng or lightes & scoryng the canstikkes . . . . .	xijd.
It' paid to Monke wexchaundler for wex spent ther this yere . . .	xxiijs. jd.
It' paid for wasshyng of clothes this yere . . . . .	ijs. iiijd.
It' the said Mr. askyth allowaunce towards his costs at the pryncipall dynner . . . . .	xls.
It' for the dyner of the Mr of the Collage and his Company . . .	vjs. viijd.
It' for the dynner of John Collard and his wyf . . . . .	ijs.
It' for the dynner of John Aylemere and his wyf . . . . .	ijs.
It' for the dynner of Alice Walton Kateryn Ball and Emmot Asser .	iijs.
It' paid for the buriyng of Robert Kyng . . . . .	iijs. viijd.
It' paid for sendyng for powle Armerer afore the Chamberleyn . .	iiijd.
It' paid for makyng and Wrytyng of this accompte . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
It' paid to Alice Walton in almys for all the tyme of this accompt .	lijs.
It' paid to John Collard in almys for the same tyme of this accompt .	xvijs. iiijd.
It' paid to John Aylemere in Almes for the time of this accompt .	xvijs. iiijd.
It' paid to Kateryn Ball in Almes this yere . . . . .	xxvjs.
It' paid to Emmot Asser in almes for the tyme of p <sup>is</sup> accompte . .	xvijs. iiijd.
It' paid for setting in of ij names in the table at the Charterhouse .	ijd
Summa .	xviiij li. xijs. xd. ob.

Arrerage of interesse of newe brethern and susters in p<sup>is</sup> accompte.  
ffyrst ther ys due and owyng by (*sic*). Summa .

Arrerage of interesse of apprentices within this accompte.  
Item ther ys due (*sic*). Summa .

Summa of all the saide expences and allowcacions commys to xviiij li. xijs. xd. ob.



Here folowith the charge of the rentes perteynyng to the saide Crafte accomptid by Edmond Mannyng Rentgaderer frome the ffeest of Ester In the xij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the vij<sup>th</sup> vnto the same ffeest of Ester In the xiiij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of the same Kyng that ys to sey by one hole yere.

Receytes of arrerage of rentes. [Nil.]

Receits of rentes belongyng to p<sup>e</sup> said Crafte.

Item the said Renter answerith that he hath receyved of herry Broke (Miller) for the ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at o<sup>r</sup> lady day thannunciacion within the tyme of p<sup>is</sup> accompte . . . . . vli. vjs. viijd.

Item receyvid of John Carpenter Skynner for the ferme that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the said ffeest of the Annunciacion. . . . . iiij li. xiijs. iiijd.

It' rec' of John lenton for the ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the same feest of the Annunciacion . . . . . iiij li.

It' rec' of John polgrave for the fferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the same ffeest . . . . . iiij li.

It' rec' of William Danyell for ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the same feest . . . . . xls.

It' rec' of Thomas lubbished for ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the said ffees[t] . . . . . xxs.

It' rec' of William Burton for ferme of p<sup>e</sup> tenement that he occupieth for a hole yere endid at the feest aforsaid . . . . . xxs.

It' rec' of John Spede for ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the same ffeest . . . . . xvjs.

It' rec' of John Bull for ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the said ffeest . . . . . xs.

It' rec' of John lambe for ferme of the tenement that he occupieth for one hole yere endid at the feest aforsaid . . . . . xvjs.

It' rec' of the same John lambe for ferme of the gardeyn that he occupieth for a hole yere endid at the same ffeest of Annunciacion . . . . . iiijjs. vjd.

Summa . . . . . xxiiij li. vjs. vjd.

Summa of all the said Receytys commys to xxiiij li. vjs. vjd.

Wherof paid to the master of Seynt Gylis for quyte rente for one hole yere within the tyme of this accompte . . . . . xjs.

Summa . . . . . xjs.

Reparacions done in the hall and other tenements.

Item paid to Byrde the Carpenter for hangyng of p<sup>e</sup> angell in p<sup>e</sup> hall. . . . . iiijd.

It' for hed nayle for the wiker of the hy dece & for lb. candell . . . . . xiijd.

It' for iij spykyngs . . . . .	ijd.
It' paid to the Smyth for vj staples for hangyng of the said Angell .	vjd.
It' for mendyng of the wyng of the same Angell . . . . .	ijd.
It' for scoryng of the olde chaynes of the beame . . . . .	iiijd.
It' paid for mendyng of the ij cokks for the laver . . . . .	vd. ob.
It' paid for haspis and staples at spedies house . . . . .	vd.
It' paid for a bokket at the hall . . . . .	viijd.
It' paid for a Cole basket for the hall . . . . .	ijd.
It' paid to a karver for makyng of the Angell for the beame . . .	xiijs. iiijd.
It' for xiiij yerdis of laton cheyne for the beame price le yerde vijd.	
summa . . . . .	vijs. vijd.
It' paid for gyldyng of the said angell . . . . .	xxs.
It' paid for mendyng of a Cheyne and Iron hopis for the newe bokket	xvjd.
It' paid for a key to the hall dore . . . . .	iiijd.
It' for hopyng and mendyng of the tubbis of the hall . . . . .	xijd.
It' paid for a pece tymber for the vyce . . . . .	iijd.
Item for polys and pynnys for the beame. . . . .	vijd.
It' for xx fadam [fathom] corde . . . . .	vd.
It' paid for workemanship of the beame . . . . .	xvjd.
It' paid for mendyng of the whele of the well . . . . .	iijd.
It' paid for viij ledges for the hy dece . . . . .	ijs.
It' paid for workemanship of the same . . . . .	vjd.
It' paid for iij fote di' of tymber for trussyng vp of a flore in Danyells	
house . . . . .	vijd.
It' paid for workemanship of the same . . . . .	vjd.
Summa . . . . .	liiijjs. iijd. ob.

ffynes & foren expences

Item the said Rentgaderer askyth allowaunce for his fee p <sup>is</sup> yere .	xiijs. iiijd.
Item for his potacions in gaderyng of the said rents . . . . .	vs.
Summa . . . . .	xviijjs. iiijd.

Rentes remaynyng in tenauntes handis [nil].

Summa of all the saide payments reparacions and allowcacions ys  
 iiij li. iijs. vijd. ob.

And so the said Rentgaderer owyth to the said Crafte xxj li. ijs. xd. ob. whiche he  
 hath delyuered at the yeldyng vp of this accompte and so quyte.



XXXIX. THE OLD HALL.

(Extracts from Early Accounts, 1442-3 to 1498-9.)

*The totals are printed in modern figures.*

1442-3. Item payed to the Clerk of Whityngtons College for his quarterage 20-1 Hen. VI.  
by the yere, 16*d*.

Item payed for tailliage of the said hall of the Craft, 4*d*.

For the mendyng of a lok to the bedelles Chambre dorre, 2*d*.

Item for a new lok and a key to the Corner hous next the hall dore, 8*d*.

1443-4. Item paied for writyng of the names of the brethered in the tabill 21-2 Hen. VI.  
and for the lymyng of the same table, 4*s*.

Item for payntyng of the same table, 6*s*. 8*d*.

Item for the mendyng of the Candel beme in the hall, 3*s*. 4*d*.

Item for lede to the peys (weight) of the same beme, 2*s*.

Item toward p<sup>e</sup> makyng of the latys in the hall, 6*d*.

Item for the caryng away of viij lode Robys out of the hall, 2*s*. 8*d*.

Item paied for makyng of the well atte hall, 13*s*. 4*d*.

Item for the fermynge of the same well, 4*s*.

Item paied ij water fattes atte hall, 12*d*.

Item paid for ij formes atte hall, 18*d*.

1444-5. For the makyng of a wyndowe in the kichyn and for a legge to the Table 22-3 Hen. VI.  
in the halle, 3½*d*.

Paied to a Glasyer for the making of xiiij fote and a half and iiij quarreles for the  
wyndowes in the hall, 4*s*.

Paid for a lether for the beme in the Hall, 2*d*.

For a pece of tymber for a pewe to the wyndowe, 2*d*.

For a ladder with brode steppys, 12*d*.

For a here brussh, 4*d*.

1449-50. Paid for the makyng of an ovyn at the Hall, 2*s*. 6*d*.

27-8 Hen. VI.

Paid for ij mattes for the Hall, 4*d*.

Paid lj elles di' (51½ ells) of lynnyn clothe for the hangyng of the Hall, pris the  
ell v d. ob. (5½*d*.) 23*s*. 6¾*d*.

Item for sewyng of the same & for lyre (edging) 3*s*.

Item for cc (200) rynges for the same, 8*d*.

Item for the steynyng of the same, 4*d*.

Paid to Ph<sup>i</sup> Orwell loquyer for henges hokes haspes staples lokkes keyes & other  
thynges to the Hall & to the tenantries as it appereth by parcelles, 3*s*. 10*d*.

Item for a forme of xiiij fote of length for the Hall, 12*d*.

Item for iiij quarters of Elme for the benches, 9*d*.

Item for borde for sconches to the penticies at the Hall, 2*d*.

Item for borde & legges to the wyndowes there, 4*d*.

Item paid to a carpenter working a Gable ende of the almeshous by iij daies, 2*s*. ob. (2*s*. 0½*d*.)

30-1 Hen. VI. 1452-3. Received of the Scriveners for the hire of the Hall, 6*s*. 8*d*.

Paid for a copy of the enditement of the donghill by the halle, j*d*.

Paid for a paynted clothe in the halle, 17*s*. 6*d*.

31-2 Hen. VI. 1453-4. For holme & ivye at Cristmasse, 2*d*. (In 1464-5. For holme and ivy and Rissches, 3*d*. For bowes garlands and Rissches, 5*d*.)

Paid to the Sporyer (*sic*) for makying of the walle atte Hall, 6*d*.

34-5 Hen. VI. 1456-7. Receyved of the Glovers for the hyre of the Halle, 6*s*. 8*d*.

For ij fourmes atte high table, 6*s*. 8*d*. (Chairs, even for distinguished guests were not yet in use.)

36-7 Hen. VI. 1458-9. This year there were considerable additions and repairs to the Hall, the total cost amounting to 8*l*. 2*s*. 8*d*.

Paide for xxj fote of stone for the Base of the Bay wyndowe at the hall and for cariying of the same stone, 18*d*.

Paid to a mason working there by v daies dj' (5½ days) for to make the same Base and for to make the wall evyn takying by the day viijd. ob. (8½*d*.) 3*s*. 10*d*.

Item to a laborer laboryng there by thre daies, 16*d*.

Item for a dogge of Iren weiyng iiij li.dj' (4½ lbs.) to bynd in the reisyng pece of the halle, 8*d*.

Item for x sakkis of lyme, 20*d*.

Item paid to Jacob Carpenter for makying of the Bay wyndowe and of other wyndowes in the hall, v li.vjs.viijd.

Item to the same Jacob for makying of a benche vnder the bay wyndowe in the hall, 4*d*.

Item paid to Thomas Bee glasier for xij fote of glasse for the small daies (dais) of of the bay wyndowe, 8*s*.

Item to the same Thomas for newe setting and skoryng of the olde wyndowes that is to sey for vj lb. of pavid lede, 12*d*. Item for two lb. of vn timer pavid lede, 2*d*.

Item for spikynges for the Aungell in the Bay wyndowe, ob.

(The other items of the outlay are for lead, solder, nails, and workmanship.)

Item paid for ij lode stone for the pament at the Hall, 4*s*.

Item for vij lode gravell, 2*s*. 4*d*.

Item paid vnto a pavior for xix tese dj'. (19½ toise), 13*s*. (See p. 163 n.)

37-8 Hen. VI. 1459-60. Paid for ij hokes for the Candell beme in the Hall, 1*d*.

Paid to Henry Johnson for a lok oyletts and hokes to the grete table in the same halle, 8*d*.



Paid for makyng of a boket with a poleye (pulley) and a swevell & a rope to the welle of the said Halle, 2s.

For a fote to an alestole in the celer of the Halle of the said Craft and for nayles, 1½d.

1462-3. Paid for a keye to the forcer, 3d.

2-3 Edw. IV.

In reparacon doon vpon the pament afore the Halle:—

First paid to Robert Bober payvor for pavyng of xv Teys (toise) there, price the teys viijd. 10s.

Item paid xvij lodes of gravell price the lode iiijd., 5s. 8d.

Item paid a laborer for abatyng and enhaunsyng of the grounde there by vj dayes takyng by the day vd., 2s. 6d.

Item paid for stones to performe the same pament, 4d.

Item paid for a lode (of) stone, 2s.

Paid for a pece of tymber for to bere the steire and Steppes in Otys hous, 1d.

Item paid for ix fote of quarter borde for the Chamber within the hall and for a wedir (weather) borde, 6d.

Item paid for a stulp (post) whiche stondithe atte the Corner of Drybyes stall and for nayle and werkmanship, 4d.

1464-5. This year the Hall was let to the Smiths and Scriveners as usual, but at the lower rate of 4s.; for the hire of their "vessell" the Craft received 12s. just three times as much. 4-5 Edw. IV.

Paid for nayles for the Creests & for teynter hokes for the steyned clothis in the halle and for werkmanship, 3½d.

1465-6. Receyued for certeyn peces of lynnyn cloth remaynyng of the clothe that was steyned for the newe parlour, 10½d. 5-6 Edw. IV.

Paid for lj (51) lb. of newe lede to keuere (cover) the Gable ende of the parloure wyndowe, 3s. 9d.

Paid for a Countor, 8s. 8d.

Paid for xv foot of tymber for the mounyns (? mullions) of the parlour wyndowe, 2s. 6d.

Paid for xx foot of elmy n Bord to the Benche in the parlour, 6d.

Paid for leggy s for the wyndowe, 8d.

Paid for halfe a C and xij (62) foot of quarter bord for the comptyng howse durre, 2s. 6d.

Paid for xviii foot of elmy n bord to the popeys of the Benche, 6d.

Paid for a lokke to the Comptyng howse durre, 8d.

Paid for iij barris of Iren for the glasse wyndowe of the parlour ix lb. and a halfe price the lb. ijd., 18d.

Paid for v foot of newe glasse to the parlour wyndowys price the foot vijd., 2s. 11d.

Paid for newe setting of a wyndowe of glasse in the parloure & the perfourmyng of  
 a wold wyndowe, 18*d*.  
 Paid for Sope to Skowre the glassyn wyndowys withall,  $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.  
 Paid for ale the same tyme, 1*d*.  
 Paid for ij m<sup>l</sup> (2000) of Tyles, 10*s*.  
 Paid for a busshell of tyle pynnys, 6*d*.  
 Paid to ij Tylers workyng there by vj dayes to Tyle the parloure and the hall and  
 Chambour takyng eueryche of them by the day viijd., 8*s*.  
 Paid to a dauber daubyng there by vj dayes takyng by the day viijd., 4*s*.  
 Paid to a laborer to make clene the hall and the parloure and the gardyn, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.  
 Paid to Thomas Kyng Tiler payyng there by a day to pave the flowre of the  
 parler, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.  
 Paid to a laborer to serue the same Thomas by the same day, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.  
 Paid for caryyng awaye of iij lode of Rubbys, 8*d*.  
 Paid to a laborer to Cary oute the saide Rubbys in to the strete & to lath the  
 storehouse wallys workyng there by ij dayes takyng by the day v d. ob. (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.),  
 11*d*.  
 Paid for mattys to the parlour, 12*d*.  
 Paid for a m<sup>l</sup> (1000) of Breks (bricks) to make the owuenys (ovens) withall, 5*s*.  
 Paid for ij ownys mowthis (ovens' mouths) and the fflores of free stone and the  
 borderrys of the same ovune, 11*s*.  
 Paid for the Cariage of the same stone, 4*d*.  
 Paid to a Masson werkynge there by xij days for to make the same ovynnys and the  
 makyng of the arche ouer the cobberd and vnder penne (underpin) the stonne  
 wall by the stret sid, takyng by the day viijd., 8*s*.  
 Paid for halfe a C of fagott for to nele (anneal) the ovenys, 22*d*.  
 Paid in reward for the good atending to the masons and laborers, 4*d*.  
 Paid for ale for that was dronk whane the rubbes was Caryd outh and att the  
 makyng clene of the hall, 7*d*.  
 Paid for a lokke to the cole howse durre and a noder to the storehouse durre and  
 ij garnetis to the Table in the parloure, 14*d*.  
 Paid for ij paire of garnetts (hinges) to the seruyng bord, 4*d*.  
 Paid to a dauber werkynge there by vij dayes to wasshe the halle and sele (ceil) the  
 parler takyng by the day viijd., 4*s*. 8*d*.  
 Paid for a C foot & a half & iij foot (153 ft.) of elmynbord for to borde the wallys  
 of the Comptyng hous, 3*s*. 6*d*.  
 Paid for a chest, 2*s*.  
 Paid for x yerds & a d' (10 $\frac{1}{2}$  yds.) of crests, 20*d*.  
 Paid for lynyng of the Brace for waynyscote and workemanship, 16*d*.



Paid to a Carpenter workyng there by ij dayes for bordyng of the wallys and layng of the plankys by the Benches in the Comptyng hous, 16*d*.

Paid to a carpynter for lettyng in the Barris of the wyndows in the comptyng hous workyng there by half a day, 4*d*.

Paid for half a C of x peny nayle for to nayle the traunsomes to geder and the plankys of the floure in the comptyng hous, 5*d*.

Paid for x peny nayle for the Curbe of the welle,  $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*.

This year's (5-6 Edw. IV) account records extensive repairs to the Hall. The above entries form only a small portion of the whole. The cost of the various works amounted to the large sum of 14*l*. 19*s*. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*., and the particulars are contained in 113 separate items. The 72 items not transcribed consist of payments to plumbers, daubers, carpenters, and labourers, and the purchase of timber, lime, sand, paving and roof tiles, nails, &c.

1465-6. Paid to William Alburgh mercer for xvj ellys & iij quarters of clouth for 5-6 Edw. IV.  
to steyne for the parlour price the ell v d. ob., 7*s*. 7*d*.

Paid for hemyng and sowyng of the same clouth, 5*d*.

Paid for steynyng of xxj yerdys & iij quarters of the clouth in the parlour price the yerd vjd., 10*s*. 4*d*.

1467-8. The repairs to the Hall still continued and cost this year 7*l*. 11*s*. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d*. 7-8 Edw. IV.

They included lead for the "gapier" window and 6*d*. "paid for a leistowe."

1468-9. Paid for barris of Iren for the high gabill wyndowe in the Halle weiyng 8-9 Edw. IV.  
xlvij lb. price the lb. jd. ob. q<sup>a</sup> (1 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d*.), 6*s*. 5*d*.

Paid to a Carpenter for makyng of a pentys ouer the Chamber wyndowe sette ouer the gabill wyndowe in the said Hall, 4*d*.

Paid for ij lb. souder (solder) for to sowde the laver (large bason) by the same Hall price the lb. vjd., 12*d*.

Paid for ij newe holowe keys for the durre of the litell parlour, 8*d*.

Paid for a newe fferment wyndowe in a gutter of the west side of the Halle weiyng ix lb. price the lb. ijd., 18*d*.

Paid for a newe hoke and a staple to a durre by the said wyndowe, 3*d*.

Paid for an oyleet to the high table in the Halle, 1*d*.

1469-70. Paid for a lb. of souder for the gutter ouer the beddels hous, 6*d*. 9-10 Edw. IV.

For a new boket to the well, 10*d*.

1470-1. Reparations doon in the lytill parloure in the Halle:—

10-11 Edw.  
IV.

Paid for the frame of tymer in the Countyng hous, 2*s*. 4*d*.

(And other small charges for workmen and materials.)

Paid for the amendyng of a steyned clothe in the halle, 6*d*.

1473-4. Paid the iij rakkes in the hall to hang clothes vpon, 13*d*.

13-14 Edw.  
IV.

1475-6. Paid for mattys for the hall, 23*d*.

15-16 Edw.  
IV.

- 16-17 Edw. IV. 1476-7. Paid for pavyng of xxviii tayce (toise) before the halle and the tenements price the tayce viijd., 18s. 8d.
- 18-19 Edw. IV. 1478-9. Paid to a Tyler workyng there a day takyng downe the Fomerell ouer the Hall, 8d. (A fomerell or fumerelle was a lantern in the roof to let out smoke).  
Paid for a holowe key for the counter that the books lieth in in the hall, 4d.  
Paid for a holowe key for a litill Cofre, 4d.  
Paid for vij fote of newe glasse in the grete parlour the fote vjd., 3s. 6d.  
Paid for clensyng and mendyng of the glass wyndowes in the parlour and in the Hall, 2s. 4d.
- 19-20 Edw. IV. 1479-80. The large sum of 137*l.* 4s. 11½*d.* was spent this year in repairs, the particulars being given in a separate statement which does not exist. These repairs are spoken of in the accounts of 20-21 Edw. IV. as "the new work" to which special contributions were made. Was it rebuilding the Hall?
- 20-1 Edw. IV. 1480-1. Paid for mendyng of the selyng in the Tresans at the Hall dore, 2d.
- 1-2 Rich. III. 1484-5. Paid for renewyng of the table of the names of the Brethern and susters of the seid crafte, 2s. 8d.
- 2 Rich. III.—  
1 Hen. VII. 1485-6. Paid to a peynter for makyng of a patron of the hangyng for the hall of the seid craft, 6s. 8d.  
Paid for to by a clothe of Aras for the high deise of the seid Hall, 8*l.*; and for to bye quysshens and bankers (cloth covers for seats) for the seid hall, 4*l.*  
Paid for planyng of the dressyng bourde atte the hall of the seid crafte ageynst the Conyfest and for a newe trestill fote, 6d.
- 1-2 Hen. VII. 1486-7. Paid for a newe cheste to putte in dyuers necessities belongyng to the seid Crafte, 3s. 8d. For a key to the same Cheste, 4d.
- 4-5 Hen. VII. 1489-90. Paid for brychyn bowes for the hall this yere, 2d.  
Paid for vj leues of selyng borde sette betwene the crestes in the Hall, 2s. 6d.  
Paid to a Joyner workyng in the seid Hall by v dayes in makyng of the Chests withoute the Hall dore and for makyng of the glasse cases and the popy in the Hall takyng by the day viij d., 3s. 4d.  
Paid for makyng clene of the cheynes for the beme of the Hall, 4d.  
Paid for a planke whereof the foreseid popy was made, 9d.  
Paid for ij Cleket keyes for the grete gate of the hall delyuered to John Walton, 4d.  
Paid to a mason and his laborer for makyng of the pament without the hall dore where the forseid Chests stond by the space of a day, 15d.  
Paid for a plate pece whiche lyeth in the Porche withoute the hall dore, 4d.
- 7-8 Hen. VII. 1492-3. No less than forty-five entries are devoted to the "mendyng of oure halle gate." The cost was 38s. 4½*d.*, and the items vary in amount from 1d. to 6s. 2d.
- 9-10 Hen. VII. 1494-5. Receyued of Symon Newenton toward the makyng of the quysshens, 9s.  
Paid for vij stone di' (7½ stone) of ffethers for the quysshens, 11s. 8d.



- Paid for xvj red skynnys for the same quysshens, 5s. 4*d*.  
 Paid for xj white skynnys for the same quysshens, 2s. 6*d*.  
 Paid to a bedmaker for makyng of xvij quysshens, 4s. 2*d*.  
 Paid for scoryng and sheryng of xvij quysshens clothes, 9*d*.  
 Paid for makyng the lauer at the hall & for lede & sowder to the same, 6s.  
 Paid for ij newe cokks to the same lauer, 3s. 4*d*.  
 Paid to the Couper for a wyne pype, 16*d*.  
 1496-7. Paid for saltfyshe and ij grete playces at the receyvyng of the stuf 11-12 Hen. VII.  
 belonging to the hall, 8*d*.  
 Paid for vij newe keys to the Cofers to ley in your evydences and for mendyng of  
 the lokks of the same Cofers, 2s. 4*d*.  
 1497-98. Paid for the grete wyker for the hy deyce (high dais), 7s. 10*d*. 12-13 Hen. VII.  
 Paid to Byrde the Carpenter for hangyng of the angell in the hall, 4*d*.  
 Paid to the Smyth for vj staples for hangyng of the said Angell, 6*d*.  
 For mendyng of the wyng of the same Angell, 2*d*.  
 For scoryng of the olde chaynes of the beame, 4*d*.  
 Paid to a karver for makyng of the Angell for the beame, 13s. 4*d*.  
 For xiiij yerdis of laton cheyn for the beame price le yerde vijd., summa 7s. 7*d*.  
 Paid for gyldyng of the said angell, 20s.  
 Paid for a bokket at the hall, ijd.  
 Paid for mendyng of a Cheyn and Iron hopis for the newe bokket, 16*d*.  
 Paid for viij ledgs for the hy dece, 2s.  
 Paid for the workemanship of the same, 6*d*.  
 1498-9. For xj fote di' (11½ ft.) of tymber for the partisshon betwene the store- 13-14 Hen. VII.  
 house & the gardeyn, 23*d*.

#### THE HALL GARDEN.

- 1453-4. Paid for the cuttyng of the vyne & the tre in the gardyn atte halle, 4*d*. 31-2 Hen. VI.  
 Item for rayles for the same gardyn, 3*d*.  
 1459-60. Paid for makyng of the gardyn of the said halle and for cuttyng of the 37-8 Hen. VI.  
 vyne in the same gardyn, 7*d*.  
 1468-9. Paid for a key to the garden gate, 3*d*. 8-9 Edw. IV.  
 1485-6. Paid to a gardener for makyng of the gardeyn, 6*d*. 2 Rich. III—  
 1 Hen. VII.  
 1497-8. Paid for dressyng and mendyng of the litill gardeyn, 6*d*. 12-13 Hen. VII.  
 1498-9. Paid to a Gardyner for vij yong vyne plants, 6*d*. 13-14 Hen. VII.  
 Paid to a Gardyner for dressyng the gardeyns at the hall, 5*d*.

## XL. REPAIRS TO PROPERTY.

(Selected extracts from the Early Accounts, 1442-3 to 1498-9.)

27-8 Hen. VI. 1449-50. Item for the makyng of a wyndowe in the hous of John Rankyn & for legges bord & werkmanship to the same, 12*d*.

Item for iij shelles to a wyndyng steyre in the same hous pris the pece vjd., 18*d*.

Item for iij bordes to the same steyer, 12*d*.

Item for iij quarters of tymbre to the same pris the pece, ijd., 6*d*.

Item paid to ij Carpenters workyng vpon the same stayer by a day either of hem at vjd. by the day, 14*d*. (Nine other items, apparently belonging to the work of the "steyre," amount to 3*s*. 9½*d*.)

Item for the makyng of an herth a Reredose & a new ovyn as it appereth by parcelles here folowyng :—

Item for viij<sup>c</sup> breke (800 bricks) to the same with the cariage, 5*s*. 4*d*.

Item for a lode of Tylesherdes with the cariage, 14*d*.

Item for iiij lode & iij sakkes lyme, 5*s*. 3*d*.

Item for iij lodes sonde, 18*d*.

Item for a quartron of okyn borde & nayles for the seid herth, 12*d*.

Item for the cariage of iij lodes of ruboys, 9*d*.

(Four other "parcelles" of payments to workmen and labourers under the above head amount to 11*s*. 4½*d*.)

31-2 Hen. VI. 1453-4. For a cisterne (Constantine's house) 6½*d*.

For xxij fote of plancherborde for a gutter there, & for the hillyng of the same, 9*d*.

Paid to a plumber for the castyng of old lede & for new lede & soudor (solder) for a gutter & a cisterne. Pondus cisterne iiij<sup>c</sup> j quartron xxxij lb. to the tenements of Robert Frosteyne & William Constantyne, 50*s*. 11*d*.

For ij hopes (hoops) set vpon a tyne borrowed, 2*d*.

36-7 Hen. VI. 1458-9. Received of William Alborow towards the makyng of his cowntyng hous dore and for turnyng of a stayer (stair), 6*s*. 8*d*.

Received for a signe and for a dressyng Iren, 3*d*. (From a house vacated by a tenant.)

Received of John Burgh peyntour towards the makyng of a spence, 6*d*.

(The repairs to John Rankyn's house this year were considerable, including the following items.)

Item paid for a dog of Iren weiyng iiij lb. dj. for the mownten pece of the kechyn, 10*d*.

Item for the mendyng of a bolte of iren for the durre betwix the shop and the hall and for ij clekettis for the wicket of the same durre, 5*d*.

Item for a lok and a key for the warehous durre, in the entre, 6*d*.



Item for a nother lok and a key for the yerd durre, 8*d*.

Item for a nother lok & a key for the litill spence durre vnder the stailer in the parlour, 6*d*.

Item for a key to the botery dore in the yerde, 3*d*.

Item for a lacche and a cacche for the bultyng (sifting) hous, 2*d*.

Item for a lok to the Cowntyng hous dore, 8*d*.

Item for a nother bolte for the brusshyng hous durre ouer the yerde, 2*d*.

1459-60. Paid to Saward plumber for a pipe of newe lede to (Botiller's) hous, 3*d*. 37-8 Hen. VI.  
(Bricks for two chimneys were bought at 5*s*. per 1000.)

1462-3. Item for iij fote of tymber for ij Somers for the litill Celer (cellar), 7½*d*. 2-3 Edw. IV.

Item paid for a quarter for to furre with the raftirs, 1*d*.

1465-6. Paid to John Deke for half a C of pavyng stone for to pave the yerd, 5-6 Edw. IV.  
5*s*.

Paid for xij foot of goter (gutter) stone to the same yerd, 2*s*. 6*d*.

Paid for a C & a quartren of Brabyn stone bought att quene heith (Queenhithe),  
8*s*. 9*d*.

1468-9. Paid for a plate for the stalle (in Burton's house), 4*d*.; a bord for the stall, 5*d*.; a bar for a window in the shop, 2½*d*. 8-9 Edw. IV.

Paid to Thomas kyng Tyler for pychyng of the herth of the said Danyells hous and for pychyng of the herth of John Augers hous and for vnder pynnyng of William Burtons stalle workyng by a day, 8*d*.

Paid for a hakoday for polys (Pole's) durre, 4*d*.

1479-80. Paid for v leggis (ledges) to the durre atte the stewe ende (Davy's and Botiller's houses), 2*d*. 19-20 Edw. IV.

1498-9. Paid to the Chayne maker for vij yerds & iij quarters of Cheyn, 4*s*. 7*d*. 13-14 Hen. VII.

#### XLI. LEASES, ETC., OF PROPERTY.

(From Early Accounts, 1442-3 to 1498-9.)

1442-3. Paied to the Guyldhall for quyte rente by a yere, 4*s*. 20-1 Hen. VI.

Item paied to Seynt Gyles for quyte rent by a yere, 8*s*.

1456-7. Received for a tenement vpon London Brigge that Thomas Hamond almesman late had for terme of certein yeres of the lesse of the Maisters of the seid brigge for xxiijs. iiij*d*. by yere the which is now laten to Nicholas Asser for xls. by yere that is to sey for the termes of Seint Michell tharchaungel Cristemasse & Easter, 30*s*.

1458-9. Received of Nicholas Asser of encrece of rent of a tenement vpon London brigge that Thomas Hamond almesman now late held for terme of certen yeres of the lesse of the brigge at xxiijs. iiij*d*. by yere now leten to the seid Nicholas for xls., 16*s*. 8*d*. 36-7 Hen. VI.

- For writyng of an endenture of the lesse of an hous to Thomas Stevynson, 8*d*.
- 1-2 Edw. IV. 1461-2. Item receyued for two olde chestes whiche were late Margarete Richards and whiche were taken for a distresse for partie of payment of hir housrent, 12*d*.
- 5-6 Edw. IV. 1465-6. Paid in wyne atte the selyng of the endentures of the leesse of William Alburghes hous, 4*d*.
- 10-11 Edw. IV. 1470-1. Paid to the Vndershiref for the seyng of the Evidences of the lyvelode (property) of the seid Crafte, 3*s*. 4*d*.
- 13-14 Edw. IV. 1473-4. Paid to a lerned man for hys Counsell for the londe of Copy hold of the said John Amell, Algate, 3*s*. 4*d*.  
Paid to a Screvener for makyng and writyng of ij notes in papir for the seid Copy lande, 20*d*.
- 17-18 Edw. IV. 1477-8. Paid for wrytyng of a Copy of a dede of certeyn quyterents goyng oute to dyuers persones of the tenements next adioynyng to the Hall of the said Crafte in Walbroke, 12*d*.
- 20-1 Edw. IV. 1480-1. Paid to the Steward of Clarkynwell for the ferm (rent) of a gardeyne grounde for a yere, 2*s*. (This was paid to the "Lady" of Clerkenwell in 1497-8.)
- 4-5 Hen. VII. 1489-90. Paid to Maister More man of lawe for his Counsayll, 20*d*.  
Paid for makyng and writyng of a note to remembre that the Maister and Wardeyns of the seid Crafte shuld entre in to Herry Davyes house because the same Herry was behynde of payyng of his rente by vj weks after the terme of the payment therof, 12*d*.  
Paid to the forseid John flye for a rewarde to pardon and relesse his title and Interesse of and in the terme of yeres of and in the seid house which the said Henry Davy late held and occupied, 40*s*.  
Paid for brede and wyne whan the foreseid Maister and Wardeyns toke entres in the seid hous of Henry Davy, 17½*d*.  
Paid for wyne spent vpon the Eschetour of london and John Flye, 4*d*.  
Paid for wyne spente vpon the seid John Flye atte the kyngs hede in Briggestrete, 6½*d*.  
Paid for wyne spente vpon the same John Flye whan the seid Maister and Wardeyns bought owte the yeres of the forseid Henry Davy, 14*d*.  
Geven in rewarde to a seruaunte of the seid John Flye, 4*d*.
- 9-10 Hen. VII. 1494-5. Paid for the lees of John Carpenters house late Harry Davys house, 12*d*. (Among the tenements repaired was one described as the "White Horse.")
- 12-13 Hen. VII. 1497-8. Spent at tauern vppon the Councell of my lady of Clerkenwell for the voide grounde on the bak side of the hall, 6½*d*.  
Paid for a payre of endentures of covenants made betwene the said lady of Clerkenwell and vs for the voide grounde, 2*s*.



Paid for the Covent seall of Clerkenwell, 10s.  
 Rewarde gevyn to the Steward, 3s. 4d.  
 Payre of Ivery knyves for his wyf, 8d.  
 Expences at tavern aboute the same besynes, 10d.

## XLII. THE COMPANY'S FIFTEENTH CENTURY TENANTS.

### PARISH OF ALLHALLOWS WATLING STREET.

#### *Tenement A.*

1442-3.	John Rankyn	-	4l.
1449-50.	John Rankyn	-	4l.
1462-3.	William Alburgh	-	4l.
1476-7.	John Seman, mercer		4l.
1480-1.	John Anmere, mercer		4l.
1485-6.	Henry Wygley	-	4l.
1489-90.	Henry Brook	-	4l.
1498-9.	William Milller	-	4l.

#### *Tenement B.*

1442-3.	Walter Lightfote	-	33s. 4d.
1449-50.	John Rankyn	-	33s. 4d.
1462-3.	William Alburgh	-	26s. 8d.
1476-7.	John Seman, mercer		26s. 8d.
1480-1.	John Anmere	-	26s. 8d.
1485-6.	Henry Wygley	-	26s. 8d.
1489-90.	Henry Brook	-	26s. 8d.
1498-9.	William Miller	-	26s. 8d.

#### *Tenement C.*

1442-3.	Richard Benton	-	73s. 4d.
1453-4.	The tenant occupying Benton's house gave		6s. 8d. towards planking the shop.
1456-7.	Roger Waryn, taillour,		73s. 4d.
1476-7.	Thomas Huetson	-	73s. 4d.
1492-3.	Rouland Henson	4l. 13s. 4d.	
1494-5.	John Carpenter, Skinner	-	4l. 13s. 4d.

### PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL PATERNOSTER. (*Horseshoe Bridge Street.*)

#### *Tenement A.*

1442-3.	John Coke		
1444-5.	Richard Dryby	-	20s.
1449-50.	John Dryby	-	20s.
1468-9.	William Daniell	-	20s.

#### *Tenement D.*

1442-3.	Edward Frensh		
1443-4.	Litigation with Frensh. He was finally released from payment of 23s. 4d. arrears of rent on surrendering his lease.		
1443-4.	John Halle	-	4l. 13s. 4d.
1458-9.	Thomas Stevenson, Goldsmith	-	4l.
1468-9.	Wife of Thomas Stevenson		4l.
1473-4.	Henry Davy, tailor	-	4l.
1492-3.	John Lenton	-	4l.

#### *Tenement E.*

1442-3.	John Kayle, peintour	-	40s.
1452-3.	Robert Frosteyne	-	40s.
1470-1.	Harry Botiller	-	40s.
	Lease to Botiller, and grant of 46s. 8d. towards his repairs.		
1480-1.	Richard Elys	-	40s.
1489-90.	William Batyson	-	40s.
1496-7.	John Polgrave	-	4l.

#### *Tenement F.*

1442-3.	William Constantyne	33s. 4d.	
1456-7.	Walter Ryburgh	-	33s. 4d.
1458-9.	— Hely, skinner	-	33s. 4d.
1458-9.	Harry Boteler	-	33s. 4d.
1480-1.	Richard Elys	-	33s. 4d.
1489-90.	William Batyson	-	26s. 8d.

#### *Tenement B.*

1442-3.	John Eland	-	20s.
1449-50.	John Dene	-	20s.
1459-60.	John Dryby	-	20s.
1468-9.	William Daniell	-	20s.

*Tenement C.*

1442-3.	Mabel Rochford	-	20s.
1449-50.	Robert Dryffeld	-	20s.
1456-7.	Dryffeld's wife	-	20s.
1461-2.	Nicholas Mille	-	20s.
1464-5.	Robert Pole	-	20s.
1471-2.	Nicholas Pole	-	20s.
1484-5.	Nicholas Pole's wife	-	20s.
1485-6.	William Pole's wife	-	20s.
1486-7.	Thomas Lupshed (Lubbi- shed)	- - -	20s.

*Tenement D.*

1442-3.	Alice Cangborne	-	20s.
1453-4.	John Lambert	-	20s.
1456-7.	Robert Stone	-	20s.
1458-9.	William Griffith	-	20s.
1467-8.	William Burton	-	20s.
1471-2.	Lease to Burton		

*PARISH OF ST. JOHN WALBROOK. (Tenements 'within the place of the Craft.')**Tenement A.**(Later, the Clerk's house.)*

1442-3.	William Crompe, Skin- ner	- -	13s. 4d.
1449-50.	John Harryes	-	13s. 4d.
1452-3.	John Harryes 1 qr.		3s. 4d.
1452-3.	Isabel Pope	-	5s.
1453-4.	Isabel Pope, $\frac{1}{2}$ year to Easter.		
1453-4.	William Budde, $\frac{1}{2}$ year to Christmas.		
1456-7.	John Harryes, baker	10s.	
	(In tenure of — Dauber.)		
1464-5.	Robert Baker	-	10s.
1467-8.	John Palmer	-	10s.
1474-5.	John Aleyn, Clerk	-	10s.
1483-4.	William Aleyn	-	10s.
1484-5.	Nicholas Asser, Clerk		10s.
1489-90.	'Late held' by N. Asser		10s.
1492-3.	John Bull, Clerk	-	10s.

*B. Tenement next the Hall.*

1442-3.	John Shether, Skinner		20s.
1449-50.	Margaret Richard	-	20s.
1450-1.	— Spark $\frac{1}{2}$ year	-	10s.
1452-3.	Richard Huchons	-	20s.
1453-4.	Edward St. John $\frac{1}{2}$ year		
1456-7.	Thomas Richard		
1456-7.	John Long, Steynour	-	16s.
1474-5.	John Long's wife	-	16s.
1478-9.	Denys Bonvilde	-	16s.

*Tenement B.—contd.*

1492-3.	John Lambe	-	16s.
1494-5.	John Lambe (garden)		4s. 6d.

*C. ('Two chambers within the Hall.')*

1449-50.	John Stampet	-	8s.
1453-4.	Empty.		
1456-7.	John Stampet	-	4s.
1458-9.	Empty.		
1461-2.	Empty.		
1462-3.	Empty.		
1468-9.	New buttery to house of 'Archers (the Beadle's) wif within the Halle.'		

*D. The 'other' new tenement next  
the Hall.*

1449-50.	John Arthour	-	20s.
1453-4.	Isabel Pope $\frac{3}{4}$ year to Christ- mas.		
1453-4.	William Budde $\frac{1}{2}$ year to Easter.		
1456-7.	William Wyld.		
1458-9.	Thomas Nicholl.		
1459-60.	John Clerk	-	16s.
1461-2.	John Stone.		
1462-3.	John Bunche	-	16s.
1464-5.	John Nightingale	-	16s.
1468-9.	John Aunger	-	16s.
1483-4.	John Spede	-	16s.



### XLIII. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES AT THE CHARTERHOUSE.

(*Extracts from Accounts, 1442-3 to 1498-9.*)

1442-3.	Item payed for a peir of laton Candelstikes given to Charterhous, 18s.	20-1 Hen. VI.
	Item payed to William Reynold wexchaundeller for wex, 20s. 7d.	
	Item payed to William Broke wexchaundeller for wex, 11s. 1d.	
	Item for the Offeryng at Charterhous, 10s.	
1443-4.	To a Clerk of the Charterhous for scouring the candelstick and keeping the light, 12d.	21-2 Hen. VI.
1453-4.	For a garnet & ij bokes for the table at Charterhous, 4d.	31-2 Hen. VI.
1459-60.	For a cofyn (box) for the letter of the fraternite of Charterhous, 1d.	37-8 Hen. VI.
1468-9.	Paid for renuyng of the tabull atte Charterhous, 3s. 7½d.	8-9 Edw. IV.
1496-7.	Paid for redyng of your evydences whan ye cam from Charterhous, 4d.	11-12 Hen. VII.
	Paid for offeryng at Charterhous on trynste Sondag, 10s.	
1497-8.	Paid for setting in of ij names in the table at the Charterhouse, 2d.	12-13 Hen. VII.

#### OBITS AND BURIALS AT OTHER CHURCHES.

1449-50.	For the obit of Anneys Bartholmewe, 2s. 8d.	27-8 Hen. VI.
	Paid to the waxchaundeler for wex for the obit of the seid Anneys Bartholmewe, 11s. 2d.	
1450-1.	Expenses for the Obite of Westowe, 3s.	28-9 Hen. VI.
1453-4.	For wex for the obyt of Walter Norwold with hyre of Candelstyks, 19s. 5d.	31-2 Hen. VI.
1464-5.	Paid for the makyng of iiij Torches for the buryng of the wif of John Roos, wayng lxxiiij lb di' (74½ lbs.) price the makyng of euery lb jd, 6s. 2d.	4-5 Edw. IV.
	Paid for the wast of the same iij lb di' (3½ lbs.), 2s. 4d.	
	Paid for the makyng of ij Tapirs for the same buryng weying xv lb price the makyng of euery lb jd, 16d.	
	Item for the wast of the same ij Tapirs, 4d.	

### XLIV. EXTRACTS FROM EARLY ACCOUNTS. SALE OF IVORY.

(1461-2 to 1497-8.)

1461-2.	Agneys Brown	24¾ lbs.	...	...	24s. 9d.	1-2 Edw. IV.
	Thomas Trylle	14½ lbs.	...	...	7s. 3d.	
	John Bowdon	1 lb.	...	...	6d.	
	John Fordam	1¾ lbs.	...	...	1s. 4d.	
	Thomas Baret	2 lbs.	...	...	1s. 8d.	
1462-3.	Agneys Broun	22¾ lbs.	...	...	22s. 9d.	2-3 Edw. IV.
	John Catour	28 lbs.	...	...	28s.	
	Thomas Barret	12 lbs.	...	...	12s.	
	William Seton	13 lbs.	...	...	13s.	

		A man of Thaxtede	3½ lbs. @ 14 <i>d.</i>	...	...	4 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>
		John Catour	(23¾ lbs.)	...	...	23 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>
4-5 Edw. IV.	1464-5.	Agneys Broun	63½ lbs. @ 8 <i>d.</i>	...	...	42 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
		Thomas Pakeman	24 lbs. 2 oz. of Scravell @ 8 <i>d.</i>	...	...	16 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>
		Thomas Baret	a hole tothe of Ivory wayng			
			52½ lbs. @ 8 <i>d.</i> ...	...	...	35 <i>s.</i>
		John Archer	2¾ lbs. of Scravell @ 8 <i>d.</i>	...	...	22 <i>d.</i>
		Thomas Otehill	a hole tothe, 51 lbs., @ 8 <i>d.</i>	...	...	34 <i>s.</i>
		John Balle	12¾ lbs. of Scravell @ 6 <i>d.</i>	...	...	6 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
		John Walton	20½ lbs. @ 8 <i>d.</i>	...	...	13 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
5-6 Edw. IV.	1465-6.	Spent mete and drink vpon certeyn persones whan the ivory was weyed 22 <i>d.</i>				
7-8 Edw. IV.	1467-8.	Receipts for ivory, 11 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> No details.				
8-9 Edw. IV.	1468-9.	Robert Kymber, for ivory, 28 <i>s.</i>				
		Richard Robert, for ivory, 6 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>				
		John Catour, for ivory, 20 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				

#### COST OF PRESENTATION KNIVES.

27-8 Hen. VI.	1449-50.	Paid for a peire of knyves geven to William Shadworth, 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				
28-9 Hen. VI.	1450-1.	Paid for iij paires of knyves geven to iij Clerkes of the Maires, 3 <i>s.</i>				
4-5 Edw. IV.	1464-5.	Paid for j paire knyves yoven to Maister Taillor Alderman, 2 <i>s.</i> (This was William Taillor, Grocer, Mayor in 1468-9; knighted 21st May, 1471; Alderman of Queenhithe, 1460-8.)				
		Item for j paire knyves yoven to the Chamberleyn, 2 <i>s.</i>				
		Item for j paire knyves to Maister William the Towne Clerk, 8 <i>d.</i>				
8-9 Edw. IV.	1468-9.	Paid for a peire of knyves whiche was geven to the Maire, 60 <i>s.</i>				
		Paid for a knyf whiche was geven to the Recorder in reward for to be of oure Counsell, 12 <i>d.</i>				
		Paid for a peire of knyves whiche was gefen to Elen langwith, 2 <i>s.</i>				
9-10 Edw. IV.	1469-70.	Paid for a knyf which was gefen to the Maister of Whittington Collage, 12 <i>d.</i>				
1-2 Hen. VII.	1486-7.	Paid for a dager gylt gevyn to Fox of yeldehall for a rewarde for mendyng of dyuers thyngs in the rolle of the seid Crafte, 2 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				
12-13 Hen. VII.	1497-8.	Paid for a payre of Ivery knyves with vyralls of siluer and lokked and chaped gilt geven to the lady of Clerkenwell, 2 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				
		For a rewarde to the Steward of Clarkenwell 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>				
		For a payre of Ivery knyves for his wyf, 8 <i>d.</i>				



# XLV. GRANT OF A BLADESMITH'S MARK.

(Twenty (?) th August, 1452. Gregory Mayor.)

Isto die concessum & consensum est per Maiorem & Aldermannos supradictos quod Johannes leyland Ciuis & Pelliparius london & Agnes vxor eius qui fuit vxor Roberti Hynkeley Ciuis dum vixit & Bladsmyth london restituti sint & rehabeant marquam suam pristinam de le double Cressaunt non obstante billa porrecta in contrarium per misteram de lez Bladsmynes. Et quod Johannes Morth bladsmyth decetero non vtatur marca illa sed quod omnino inhibeat sub periculo incumbent' &c. (*Journal* 6, f. 249.)

## TRANSLATION.

On that day it was granted and agreed by the Mayor and Aldermen above-said that John Leyland, citizen and skinner of London and Agnes his wife who was the wife of Robert Hynkeley late citizen and bladesmith of London should be restored and have again their old mark of the double crescent notwithstanding the petition to the contrary presented by the Mistery of Bladesmiths. And that John Morth bladesmith shall not further use that mark but shall be altogether forbidden under the penalty attaching, etc.

# XLVI. PAGEANTRY. EDWARD IV's VISIT TO LONDON.

(24th February, 1462-3.)

Isto die (18th Feb. 2 Edw. IV.) concessum est quod in proximum aduentum Regis a partibus borialibus ad Ciuitatem Maior & Aldermanni obuient sibi super Equis in Scarletto & quod Cōarij obuient eciam Regi super Equis induti Togis blodijs Calepestris & leripijijs nigris & quod de omnibus misteris subscriptis equitent certe persone prout inferius limitantur videlicet:—

Mercers . . .	xxiiij	Bruers . . .	x	Bowyers . . .	iiij
Drapers . . .	xxiiij	Bochers . . .	viiij	Cordewaners . . .	vj
Grocers . . .	xxiiij	Bakers . . .	vj	Armorsers . . .	iiij
ffyshmongers . . .	xx	Cotillers . . .	vi	Brouderers . . .	ij
Goldsmynes . . .	xx	Diers . . .	vj	ffletchers . . .	vj
Vynters . . .	xij	Taloughchaundillers . . .	viiij	Hurers . . .	vj
Skynners . . .	xj	Wexchaundillers . . .	vj	Stacioners . . .	iiij
Tailours . . .	xxiiij	Carpenters . . .	vj	Vyholders . . .	vj
Iremongers . . .	x	Peautrers . . .	vj	Pynners . . .	ij
Salters . . .	viiij	Sadillers . . .	viiij	Plumers . . .	ij
Haberdasshers . . .	xij	Shermen . . .	vj	Pastelers . . .	ij
Girdillers . . .	vj	ffullers . . .	vj	Sporyours . . .	ij
Lethersellers . . .	viiij	Scryvaners . . .	iiij	barbours . . .	x

In die mercurij scilicet xxij die mensis predicti tunc proximo sequente datum fuit intelligi Maiori & Aldermannis quod Rex venierit de villa Shene ad Ciuitatem londinensem in bargea sua per Aquam Thamisie. Igitur concordatum fuit per eosdem quod Maior Aldermanni & Cōiatij obuiarent Regi in bargijs suis ornati eodem apparatu quo soliti sunt ornari qn' Maior sumit sacrum suum apud Westm'; quod in die Jouis tunc proximo sequente videlicet in festo Sancti Mathie factum fuit. (*Journal* 7, f. 21b.)

#### TRANSLATION.

On that day it was agreed that at the approaching visit of the King from the Northern parts to the City, the Mayor and Aldermen should meet him on horseback (clad) in scarlet, and that the Commonalty should also meet the King on horseback clothed in sanguine gowns, hoods, and black liripipes, and that from all the Misteries hereunder written should ride certain persons as are appointed below, namely:—

(List of 39 Misteries.)

On Wednesday then next following, to wit the twenty-third day of the month aforesaid, information was given to the Mayor and Aldermen that the King would come from the village of Sheen to the City of London in his barge by the Water of Thames. Therefore it was agreed by the same that the Mayor and Aldermen and Commonalty should meet the King in their barges robed in the same apparel in which they were accustomed to be robed when the Mayor takes his oath at Westminster; which was done on the Thursday then next following, namely on the Feast of St. Matthias.

#### XLVII. CORONATION PROCESSION OF ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF EDWARD IV.

(26th May, 1465.)

Item in isto Communi Consilio (2nd May, 5 Edw. IV.) concordatum fuit quod de qualibet mistera misterarum subscriptarum equitent certe persone versus dominam Reginam in aduentu suo ad turrin londinensem ante Coronacionem suam in togis Coloris de murrey prout inferius limitantur:—

Mercers . . .	xxiiij	Irmongers . . .	x	Bruers . . .	xx
Drapers . . .	xxiiij	Salters . . .	viiij	Bochers . . .	xij
Grocers . . .	xxiiij	Haberdasshers . . .	xij	Bakers . . .	vj
ffyshmongers . . .	xx	Girdlers . . .	vj	Cotlers . . .	vj
Goldsmithes . . .	xx	lethersellers . . .	viiij	Diers . . .	vj
Vynters . . .	xij	Paynters . . .	ij	Taloughchaundlers . . .	viiij
Skynners . . .	xvj	Wolpakkers . . .	ij	Waxchaundlers . . .	vj
Talours . . .	xxiiij	ffuystours (?) . . .	ij	Carpenters . . .	vj



Peautrers . . .	vj	Brouderers . . .	ij	Hostlers . . .	iiij
Sadlers . . .	viiij	flechers . . .	vj	Glovers . . .	ij
Shermen . . .	vj	hurrs . . .	vj	(Illegible) . . .	iiij
ffullers . . .	vj	Stacyoners . . .	iiij	lorymers . . .	—
Scryvaners . . .	iiij	Vpholders . . .	ij	ffruterers . . .	—
Bowyers . . .	iiij	Pynners . . .	ij	Turnours . . .	—
Patynmakers . . .	iiij	Plummers . . .	ij	Coupers . . .	—
(Illegible) . . .	—	Pastelers . . .	ij	Pulters . . .	—
(Illegible) . . .	—	Sporyors . . .	ij	Staynours . . .	—
Cordwaners . . .	vj	Barbours . . .	xj	Greytawyers . . .	—
Armurers . . .	iiij	Coriours . . .	vj		

(*Journal* 7, f. 97.)

#### XLVIII. CITY RECEPTION OF KING EDWARD V.

(4th May, 1483.)

Concessum est per Maiorem & Aldermannos quod de qualibet mistera subscripta certe persone equitent erga dominum Regem venientem ad Ciuitatem londinensem ad Coronacionem suam, indute Togis coloris murrey; numerus personarum eorundem subscribitur. (*Journal* 9, f. 18b. 21st April, 1 Edw. V.)

Goldsmaythes . . .	xxx	Wexchaundlers . . .	iiij	Wolmen . . .	vj
Mercers . . .	xxx	Talughchaundlers . . .	vj	Plomers . . .	ij
Drapers . . .	xxx	Shermen . . .	viiij	Stacioners . . .	ij
Grocers . . .	xxx	ffullers . . .	viiij	ffounders . . .	iiij
ffisshemongers . . .	xxx	Girdelers . . .	iiij	Paynters . . .	ij
Skynners . . .	xx	Bochers . . .	x	Staynours . . .	ij
Salters . . .	x	Bakers . . .	vj	Wodemongers . . .	ij
Vynters . . .	viiij	Bruers . . .	x	Turners . . .	ij
Taillours . . .	xxx	lethersellers . . .	x	Curreours . . .	vj
Iremongers . . .	x	Hurers . . .	iiij	Pulters . . .	ij
Haberdasshers . . .	xx	Vpholders . . .	iiij	Paistlers . . .	ij
Scryvaners . . .	iiij	Cordewaners . . .	iiij	Coupers . . .	ij
Dyers . . .	x	Joynours . . .	ij	Wiremongers . . .	ij
Peauterers . . .	vj	Masons . . .	ij	Glasiers . . .	ij
Cutlers . . .	vj	Carpenters . . .	iiij	Tilers . . .	iiij
Sadlers . . .	viiij	ffletchers . . .	ij	lynendrapers . . .	ij
Barbours . . .	viiij	Bowiers . . .	ij		
Armurers . . .	iiij	Inholders . . .	iiij		

Summa iiij<sup>x</sup> persones.

# XLIX. RICHARD III's VISIT TO LONDON.

(November, 1483.)

In isto Communi Consilio (20th Nov., 1 Ric. III) concordatum est quod de qualibet mistera equitent serte persone induti togis de murrey erga Aduentum domini Regis ad istam Ciuitatem secundum numerum subscriptum videlicet :—

Haberdasshers	xxij	Wexchaundlers	. . . . .	iiij	Wolmen	. . . . .	vj
Mercers . . .	xxx	Taloughchaundlers .	. . . . .	vj	Plomers . . .	. . . . .	ij
Drapers . . .	xxx	Shermen . . . . .	. . . . .	vij	Stacioners . .	. . . . .	ij
Grocers . . .	xxx	ffullers . . . . .	. . . . .	vij	ffounders . . .	. . . . .	ij
ffishmongers	. xxx	Girdlers . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij	Payntours . .	. . . . .	ij
Goldsmaythes	. xxiiij	Bochers . . . . .	. . . . .	x	Steynours . . .	. . . . .	ij
Skynners . .	xxiiij	Bakers . . . . .	. . . . .	vj	Wodmongers .	. . . . .	ij
Salters . . .	x	Bruers . . . . .	. . . . .	x	Turnours . . .	. . . . .	ij
Vynters . . .	vij	lethersellers . . .	. . . . .	x	Curriours . .	. . . . .	vj
Taillours . .	xxx	hurers . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij	Pultours . . .	. . . . .	ij
Ismongers . .	x	Vpholders . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij	Paistelers . .	. . . . .	ij
Scriveners .	iiij	Cordwaners . . . .	. . . . .	iiij	Cowpers . . . .	. . . . .	ij
Diers . . . .	x	Joynours . . . . .	. . . . .	ij	Wyremongers .	. . . . .	ij
Peauterers .	vj	Masons . . . . .	. . . . .	ii	Glasiers . . . .	. . . . .	ij
Cutlers . . .	vj	Carpenters . . . . .	. . . . .	ij	Tilers . . . . .	. . . . .	ij
Sadlers . . .	vij	ffletchers . . . . .	. . . . .	ij	lynnendrapers	. . . . .	ij
Barbours . .	vij	Bowiers . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij			
Armurers . .	iiij	Inholders . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij			

(*Journal* 9, ff. 39-39b.)

Summa iiij<sup>c</sup>vj persones.

## L. WATCH KEPT IN THE CITY BY THE MEN OF THE MISTERIES.

(June, 1483.)

Vigilie facte in le Chepe ab hora septima ante nonam vsque ad horam septimam post nonam &c.

Goldsmaythes	. . . . .	x	lethersellers	. . . . .	vj	Wodmongers	. . . . .	j
Mercers	. . . . .	xij	Joynours	. . . . .	ij	Turnours	. . . . .	j
Grocers	. . . . .	xij	Bowiers	. . . . .	iiij	Pulters	. . . . .	j
ffishmongers	. . . . .	x	Inholders	. . . . .	iiij	Paistelers	. . . . .	j
Skynners	. . . . .	x	Stacioners	. . . . .	ij	Cowpers	. . . . .	j
Haberdasshers	. . . . .	vij	ffounders	. . . . .	ij	Pynners	. . . . .	j
Cutlers	. . . . .	iiij	Peyntours	. . . . .	ij	Blaksmythes	. . . . .	j
Sadlers	. . . . .	iiij	Steynours	. . . . .	ij	Bladesmythes	. . . . .	j
Girdlers	. . . . .	iiij	Hatters	. . . . .	iiij			
Brewers	. . . . .	iiij	Browderers	. . . . .	ij			

Cx.



Vigilie facte in Cornhull ab hora septima ante nonam vsque (ad) horam septimam post nonam &c.

Drapers . . .	xij	Shermen . . .	iiij	plomers . . .	ij
Salters . . .	iiij	ffullers . . .	iiij	Patynmakers . . .	ij
Vynters . . .	iiij	Bochers . . .	iiij	Weuers . . .	j
Taillours . . .	xij	Bakers . . .	iiij	Sporiours . . .	j
Irmongers . . .	iiij	Glouers . . .	ij	lorymours . . .	j
Scrivenours . . .	ij	Hurers . . .	ij	horners . . .	j
Diers . . .	iiij	Curriours . . .	iiij	wyremongers . . .	j
Peauterers . . .	iiij	Vpholders . . .	ij	lynnendrapers . . .	j
Barbours . . .	iiij	Cordewaners . . .	ij	ffuystours . . .	j
Armurers . . .	ij	Masons . . .	ij	ffruterers . . .	j
Wexchaundlers . . .	iiij	Carpenters . . .	ij	Chesemongers . . .	j
Talough- chaundlers . . .	iiij	ffletchers . . .	ij	Glasiers . . .	j
		Wolmen . . .	iiij	Tilers . . .	j

Cvij.

(*Journal* 9, f. 26. 19th June, 1 Edw. V.)

## LI. HENRY VII's VISIT TO LONDON.

(October, 1487.)

Item in isto Communi Concilio (9th Oct. 3 Hen. VII) concordatum est quod in aduentum dicti domini Regis ad istam Ciuitatem certe persone de qualibet mistera secundum numerum subscriptum equitent uersus eundem dominum Regem in Togis de vyolet, videlicet :—

Mercers . . .	xxx	Sadlers . . .	viiij	Cordewaners . . .	iiij
Grocers . . .	xxx	Barbours . . .	viiij	Joynours . . .	ij
Drapers . . .	xxx	Armurers . . .	iiij	Masons . . .	ij
ffishemongers . . .	xxx	Wexchaundlers . . .	iiij	Carpenters . . .	ij
Taillours . . .	xxx	Talough- chaundlers . . .	vj	ffletchers . . .	ij
Goldsmaythes . . .	xxiiij	Shermen . . .	viiij	Bowiers . . .	ij
Skynners . . .	xx	ffullers . . .	vj	Inholders . . .	iiij
Haberdasshers . . .	xx	Girdelers . . .	iiij	Wolmen . . .	vi
Salters . . .	x	Bochers . . .	x	Plomers . . .	ij
Vynters . . .	viiij	Bakers . . .	vj	Stacioners . . .	ij
Iremongers . . .	x	Bruers . . .	x	ffounders . . .	iiij
Scryvaners . . .	iiij	Iethersellers . . .	x	Paynters . . .	ij
Dyers . . .	x	Hurers . . .	iiij	Staynours . . .	ij
Peauterers . . .	vj	Vpholders . . .	iiij	Wodemongers . . .	ij
Cutlers . . .	vj			Turners . . .	ij

Curreours . . .	iiij	lynendrapers . . .	ij	Weuers . . .	ij
Pulsters . . .	ij	ffelmongers . . .	ij	Blaksmythes . . .	j
Paistlers . . .	ij	ffruterers . . .	j	Bladesmythes . . .	j
Coupers . . .	ij	hatters . . .	ij	Sporiours . . .	j
Wiremongers . . .	ij	Patynmakers . . .	ij	lorymours . . .	j
Glasiers . . .	ij	Greytawiers . . .	ij	purcers . . .	j
Tilers . . .	iiij	Brasiers . . .	j	Glovers . . .	ij

Summa CCCCxxxiiij persones.

(*Journal* 9, ff. 157b-158.)

## LII. ORDINANCES OF THE BLADESMITHS.

(30th July, 1463, 3 Edward IV.)

Petition of  
the Blade-  
smiths.

Memorandum quod tricesimo die mensis Julij anno regni Regis Edwardi quarti post conquestum tercio venerunt hic in Curia Domini Regis in Camera Guihalde Ciuitatis London coram Thoma Cook Maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem Ciuitatis Gardiani ac alij quamplures homines mistere de Bladesmythes Ciuitatis predicte & porrexerunt dictis Maiori & Aldermannis quandam billam siue supplicacionem verborum sequentium seriem continentem.

"Foreign"  
bladesmiths  
sell their wares  
at inns and  
other unlawful  
places in the  
City.

Vnto the right honorable and worshipfull Lorde the Mair And to our full worshipfull souerains his bretheren the Aldermen of the Citee of London. Mekely besechen the Wardens and ffelishship of the Crafte of Bladesmythes of the seide Citee That where as diuers fforeyns Bladesmythes aswele of foreyn townes as of places nygh the Subarbes of the seide Citee comyng and repayryng to the seide Citee vsen to selle in Innes and other priuat and vnlefull places theire chaffaire that they bryng to the Citee to sell and not to places therto assigned by the ordinance of the seid Citee And for to eschue suche vntrew and disseyuable chaffare so brought and solde to the hurte of the comon people. Please it youre goode lordeship and wise discrecions to graunt and ordeign that al suche foreyns that from hensforward comen and vsen the seide Citee shall bryng their almanere Chaffare to ledenhall there to be solde opynly on merkate dayes there accustomed and in non other places vpon paynne of forfeiture of all suche chaffare so solde in eny other place within the fraunchese of the seide Citee And that all other actees and ordinances a fore this tyme graunted by youre noble predecessours for the wele of the seide Crafte entred in the Chambre of the yeldehall of london be goode and effectuell accordyng to the seide grauntes.

Their wares  
to be sold  
openly at  
Leadenhall on  
market days.

And ouer that forasmoch as diuers fforeyns dwellyng in ferre contrees of this Reaume counterfeten the markes of Bladesmythes of this Citee and sellen theire blades to diuers persones of this Citee and by the same persones aren solde ayen

Country  
dealers forging  
the marks of  
City blade-  
smiths to lose  
their goods.



for london blades to grete disclaunder of the seide Craft and disceyte of the kyngs people. It like vnto your full wise discrecions to ordeign and graunte that all suche blades so retailed and solde from hensforward in whos handes thei been founde of the seide Citee bi due serche therof made by the Wardens of the seide Craft of Bladesmythes for the tyme beyng to gider with an Officer of youre may be vtterly forfette.

Also forasmoche as oftentymes by diuers vnkonnyng Grynders of the seide Citee many goode blades and sufficient aren sore appeired to grete disclaunder of the london blades That it please vnto your full wise discrecions to ordeign and graunte that from hensforward no maner foreyn take vpon him to vse the occupacion of Gryndyng of Blades within the seide Citee and fraunchese thereof, on lesse than that persone so sette a werke be fraunchesed and proued within the seide Citee vpon payn of paying at euery tyme founden defectif xij d.

Good blades spoiled by unskilful grinders.

Proposed remedy.

Also forasmoche as diuers persones enfraunchesed in the seide Crafte have custumably vsed to goo sende and offre vntreu and disseyuable Chaffare to sell in diuers Couert and pryvy places for light chepe to the grete disceyte of the Comon people. Please it youre right sadde and wise discrecions to graunte and ordeign that no personne enfraunchesed of the seide Crafte in the same Citee by him self nor by noon other persone in no wise shall bere no manere chaffare of the seide Craft out of his house to offre to eny persone to sell vnto suche tyme that the saide Chaffare be duely serched by the Wardeins of the same Crafte for the tyme beyng and founde by the seide Wardeins able vpon payn of forfeiture of the same and to make fyne at euery tyme that he therof be founde defectyf and duely conuicte vpon the same vjs viijd whereof that oon halff to the seide yeldehall and that other halff to the Comon Boxe of the seide Crafte.

None to sell untrue wares for "light chepe" in privy places.

Penalties for such offences.

Also forasmoche as often tymes diuers vnkonnyng Grynders of Sheres and blades of the seide Citee goyng aboute in the same Citee aud desiren to haue the gryndyng of mennes sheres and blades for right litle value, ffor the Couetisenes of the which, men taken them there sheres and blades to grynde. And thanne they been euill grounde and some tyme in stede of gryndyng but whette by the which the Comon people been gretely disceyued and without remedy wherefore please it youre saide discrecions to ordeyn and graunte that noo persone enfraunchesed in the seide Crafte take vpon him to grynde eny mennes sheres except Shermen sherys that is to sey clothesheris or blades withoute he do it sufficiently and werkmanly. And if any manne be founde defectif in that poynt by complaynt made of any persone, that thanne the party so hurte to be restored to his hurtes by the discrecion of the Wardeins of the same Crafte for the tyme beyng And to make fyn to the Comon Boxe of the seide Craft accordyng to the seide defence, nor that no personne enfraunchesed in the seide

Penalties for defective grinding by unskilful workmen.

Bladesmiths  
not to set their  
mark on ware  
made by  
"foreyns."

Penalty for  
disobedience.

The lights be-  
fore Our Lady  
at St. Paul's  
and the Friars  
Minors to be  
sustained by  
all the  
Commonalty.

Crafte shall not goo oute of his house to praye desire nor fecche eny ware or Chaffare to make or grynde nor that noo personne of the seide Crafte shall not bere nor sende his marke to eny foreyn to be sette vpon eny werke by the foreyn to be made without that there be noo man enfraunchesed of the seide Crafte of sufficient konnyng to make the same vppon payne to pay at euery tyme that eny of the personnes enfraunchesed of the seide Crafte be founde defectif in eny of the poyntes aforesaid xxd Whereof that oon halff to the yeldehall aforesaid And that other halff to the comon boxe of the seide Crafte.

And where as the Cominaltie of the seide Crafte to the honoure of god and of oure blissed lady his moder of long tyme passed haue founde vsed and kept certeyn lyghtes bernyng before the ymages of oure lady aswell in the Cathedrall Chirche of Seynt Poule as in the Chirch of the ffreres menours dyuers persones of the seide Crafte been obstynat and woll not bere there parte to the sustinace of the seide lights nor obey the Somons of there Wardens for suche Correccions and necessaries as long to the seide Crafte to the grete trouble and hurte of the same Craft Please it therefore youre lordship and wise discrecions to graunte and ordeign that euery persone of the seide Craft disobeyng to paye his parte duly sette vpon him to the sustinace of the seide lightes or that disobeyeth eny Somons made vnto him by the Wardeins of the seide Crafte for the tyme beyng make fyne of iiij *d* or ellys to losse at euery tyme a pownde a wexe whereof that oon halff to the yeldehall aforesaid and that other halff to the Comon Boxe of the seide Crafte. (*Letter-Book L*, f. 14 b.)

#### LIII. GRANT TO LAUDUS RAMSON OF THE OFFICE OF KING'S CUTLER.

(19th November, 1485, 1 Henry VII.)

Rex Omnibus ad quos &c. salutem Sciatis quod nos in consideracione seruicij quod dilectus nostri laudus Ramson de Ciuitate nostra london' Cutteler nobis ante hec tempora impendit & in posterum impendere intendit de gratia nostra speciali dedimus & concessimus sibi officium Cultellarij nostri habend' & occupand' idem officium pro termino vite sue cum omnimodis vadiis feodis proficuis & comoditatibus eidem officio ab antiquo debitis & consuetis in tam ampl' & larga forma prout aliqua alia persona officium predictum preantea occupans habuit & percepit in eodem. In cuius &c. Teste Rege apud Westm' xix die Nouembr. (*Patent Roll*, 1 Henry VII, pt. I, m. 34).

#### TRANSLATION.

The King to all to whom &c. greeting. Know ye that we in consideration of the service which our beloved Laudus Ramson, of our City of London, cutler, has rendered to us in time past and intends in future to render, have of our special



grace given and granted to him the office of our cutler, to have and to hold the same office for the term of his life, with the wages, fees, profits, and commodities of every kind to the same office from ancient time due and accustomed in as full and ample a manner as any other person previously occupying the office aforesaid has had and has received in the same. In witness whereof &c. Witness the King at Westminster, the nineteenth day of November. (1485.)

#### LIV. ORDINANCES OF THE CUTLERS.

(13th June, 1485, 2 Richard III.)

Memorandum quod terciodecimo die Junij Anno Regni Regis Ricardi tercij post conquestum Secundo Magister gardiani ac probi homines Artis Cultellar' Ciuitatis london venerunt hic in curia dicti domini Regis in Camera Guihald' Ciuitatis predicte coram Thoma Hille milite maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem ciuitatis & porrexerunt eisdem maiori & Aldermannis quandam billam siue supplicacionem Cuius tenor sequitur in hec verba scilicet To the full honourable lorde the Maire and the Worshipfull Soueraignes thaldermen of the Citee of london Shewen vnto youre goode lordeship and maistershippes the maister wardeyns and the good ffolks of the Crafte of Cultellers of the Citee of london that where the saide Crafte in tyme late passed hathe gretely prospered and encreced by the goode Rule and demeanyng within the saide Crafte vnto now of late many simple people contrarie to the good policie of the saide Citee and the goode guydyng of the Crafte aforesaide haue taken so many apprentices that they were not of power to susteyn them but solde their terme and set them ouer vnto other simple people of the same Crafte of none habilitie or Connyng to teche and enforme them the feets of the same Crafte And after thende of the terme many of the same Apprentices for lacke of Occupacion within the said Citee haue departed oute of this Citee vnto other parties of this Realme and tawght suche Connyng as they hadde vnto other people and after that haue resorted agayn vnto the saide Citee vnto the grete hurt of the said Crafte. Many of the saide Apprentices also haue taken and daily take Chambres in secret places and som of theym ij. iiij. or iiij. togider been becom partie felows where none of theym by him self is of habilitie to sette vppe open shoppe, and worke deceyvably as well by day as be nyght the subtell werks of the said Crafte which in no wyse may truely and perfily be wrought by Candell light. And werke also other deceyvable werks which that by the Maister and Wardeyns of the same Crafte may not be seen and serched the same persones also and other enfraunchised in the same Crafte daily set on werke foreyns in the saide crafte of Cutlers and sende owte their wares vnto other places out of the ffraunches of the Citee there to be wrought. So that

Petition of the Cutlers.

The poorer cutlers take too many apprentices.

These apprentices leave the City and teach their trade elsewhere.

Others work as partners in secret places.

Others employ "foreyns" to work outside the City.

Many City cutlers work on eves of Holy days.

New regulations submitted.

Freemen to have only one apprentice; liverymen two; past Masters and Wardens three.

N.B.

Apprentices to be free born and comely.

Under penalty of 100s.

Provision for turning over.

Only by licence of Master and Wardens and Chamberlain.

many of the saide Crafte which haue been Apprentises before for lacke of occupacion be come Idle and vagabunds and haue none occupacion wherby they may gete their lyvyng to the grete hurt of all the kyngs liege people and vtter vndoyng of the Crafte aforesaid without a Remedie therfor rather be prouided many persones also occupying the said Crafte of Cutlers within the said Citee not dredyng god werke on holidiaies vppon vigill Eves and Saterdaies at afternone to the grete displeasure of Allmyghty god. Please it therfor your lordeship & maistershippes the premisses tenderly considered for the pleasure of god the worship of the Citee and the Avaunsement of the Crafte aforesaid to graunt thise Articles hereafter folowyng.

ffirst that no man occupying the Crafte of Cutlers the which is not of the brederhode and clothyng of the same Crafte from this tyme foreward shall take at ones but oonly oon apprentice. And that no man beyng a brother and in the Clothyng of the Crafte aforesaid and haue not been before the Maister and Wardeyn of the same Crafte shall take any mo oonly but ij Apprentices at ones And he that is or hath been Maister or Wardeyn hereafter shall take no more apprentices but iij at the most. And that eueriche of the saide persones shall present his saide apprentice vnto the said Maister & Wardeyns for the tyme beyng to thentent that they may diligently see and vnderstond that he be *free borne* and not disfigured in his body for worship of this Citee payng for euery suche apprentice so to be taken viijs. to the fyndyng of the poore men of the same Crafte. And what persone of the saide Crafte or occupying the same Crafte breke any poynt of this ordnance or any parcell therof pay C s. as ofte as he so dothe half to the chamber of london and the other half to the sustentacion of the poore men of the said Crafte. Prouided alway that it shalbe lefull to euery persone occupying the said Crafte within the Citee of london in the last yeer of the termes of any suche Apprentice to be taken, to take a nother in place of hym or of theym that soo that yeer from hym shall departe this ordnance notwithstanding Provided also that if any Apprentice hereafter by the dethe or departyng of his Maister or otherwyse must nedys be set ouer to a nother of the same Crafte that thanne it shalbe lefull to the Maister & Wardeyns of the same Crafte by thadvise of the Chamberleyn of the Citee for the tyme beyng to set ouer the same apprentice to some other persone of the same Craft though that the same persone haue bfore the full numbre of his apprentices.

Also that no man nor woman enfraunchised in the saide Craft shall set ouer alien or selle the termes of any of their Apprentises but oonly by the licence of the Maister and Wardeyns of the same Crafte and by theadvise of the Chamberleyn of the Citee of london for the tyme beyng so that the saide Chamberleyn Maister and Wardeyns may provyde a conuenient Maister for the saide Apprentices not



oonly for their necessarie fyndyng but also for their techyng and informacion duryng ther termes And also that the said Maister and Wardeyns by thadvice of the Chamberleyn may Jugge and deme by their discrecions what money shuld be geven and paide vnto the maister or maisters of the saide apprentices by him vnto whom the same Apprentices shuld be set ouer or the termes solde as it is abouesaid. And he that so shall receyve any apprentice shall pay for euery suche apprentice to hym set ouer viijs. to the Sustentacion of the Almes of the poore folke of the Crafte aforesaid. And he that dothe contrarie to this ordenaunce shall pay at euery tyme C.s. to be deuided in fourme abouesaid. Prouided alway that if the saide Maister and Wardeyns be not indifferent in suche setting ouer or demyng what shalbe taken than for the said apprentice so set ouer that than the Chamberleyn of the Citee for the tyme beyng shall by his discrecion set ouer the same apprentice and deme what shalbe taken for the same apprentice.

Chamberlain to advise as to sum to be paid.

The new master to pay 8s. in alms to poor cutlers.

Also that no man occupying the said Crafte of Cutlers within the Citee of London at any tyme hereafter from the ffest of Thannunciacion of oure lady vnto the ffest of Mighelmas than next ensuyng by him self nor by his seruaunts or apprentices shall werke or cause to be wrought any maner thyng that belongeth to the said Crafte of Cutlers before iiij of the Clocke in the mornyng nether after viij of the Clocke in the nyght vnto iiij in the mornyng next folowyng And from the ffest of Mighelmas vnto the ffest of thannunciacion of oure lady that (then) next folowyng that no persone occupying the said Crafte by hym self his seruaunts or his apprentices shall werke before vj of the Clocke in the mornyng and to leve werke at vj of the Clocke at afternone and in no wise to wirke after that houre vnto vj in the mornyng than next ensuyng. except it shalbe lefull vnto them to werke vnto ix of the Clocke in furbyng and glasyng and to leve werke than. And that no man occupying the said Crafte of Cutlers within the Citee aforesaid by him self his seruaunts or his apprentices nor by any other shall werke or cause to be wrought any thyng that belongeth to the said Crafte of Cutlers in his house Shoppe, or Chambre or in any other place within the Citee of London by Candell light after the houres before lymytted except ffurbyng and glasyng as it is aforesaid nor portraie gylde drawe varnyssh shave Burnysshe ne police in any wyse before or after the houres aforesaid. And what so euer he be that breketh this ordenance in all or in any parte therof shall pay as ofte as he so dothe vjs. viij*d*. to be diuided in maner and forme abouesaid.

Hours of work fixed.

4 a.m. to 8 p.m. in summer.

6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in winter.

"Furbyng and glasyng" to 9 p.m.

Under penalty of 6s. 8*d*.

Also that no man occupying the saide Crafte of Cutlers within the saide Citee by hym self his seruaunts or his apprentices or by any other shall sette or cause to be set in deceit of the kings liege people any laten pomell vppon any gilt blade vppon (payne) of vjs. viij*d*. as ofte as he soo dothe contrarie to this ordenaunce to be diuided as it is aforesaid.

None to put a latten pomell on a gilt blade.

Work not to  
be sent out of  
the City to be  
wrought.  
Specified  
articles of cut-  
lery.

Also that no man occupying the said Crafte of Cutlers within the Citee of london at any tyme hereafter put oute or delyuer to be made or wrought oute of the ffraunchises of the said Citee any maner Woodeknyfes Hangars Whynyerds Trenchour knyffs ffyles Syngles Peres Knyffetts oyster knyfes Bodekenes ne other maner thyng or Stuffe perteynyng to the said Crafte of Cutlers nether color ne set on werke in the same occupacion any foreyn within the ffraunchise of the said Citee or in any other place without the said ffraunchise Seintwary (sanctuary) or other vppon payne of xxs. as ofte as he soo dothe to be diuided as it is aforesaid.

Cutlers to  
work only in  
open shops by  
the street side.

Also that no man occupying the saide Crafte of Cutlers within the said Citee of london nether by hym self his seruaunts his apprentices ne by any other shall werke any thyng perteynyng to the saide Crafte of Cutlers within any Aley Chambre garet or in any other secrete place but oonly in open Shoppe or open houses by the Strete side to thentent that their werks may be duely and truely serched by the Maister and Wardeyns of the saide Crafte of Cutlers for the tyme

None to take a  
partner with-  
out licence.

beyng as of olde tyme it hathe been vsed & accustomed. And that no man occupying the saide Crafte at any tyme hereafter shall take or haue any partyng ffelowe without licence of the Maister and Wardeyns of the same Crafte for the tyme beyng. Nor that any suche partyng ffelowes occupie any hous Shoppe or Chambre or any place togider as party ffelowes in the saide Crafte or occupie any Tole or Instrument perteynyng to the saide Crafte as ffieleaux but that all such persones forasmoch as they be not of habilitie to take hous and Shoppe of theym self by the discrecion of the Maister and Wardeyns of the same Crafte be put vnto seruice vnto suche tyme as they been of Power to take hous or Shoppe vppon theym self vppon payne of xxs. as ofte as he dothe contrarie to this ordenaunce to be diuided in maner and fourme aforesaid.

Those unable  
to take house  
and shop to be  
put to service.

Work on eve  
of Festivals  
prohibited  
after 3 p.m.

Also that no man occupying the saide Crafte of Cutlers within the Citee of london at any tyme hereafter neither by him self his seruaunts his apprentices nor by any other shall werk any Stuffe or any maner thinge or do any besynes belonging to the saide Crafte of Cutlers vppon any Saturday vigill or vppon evyn ffestiual in the yeere after iij of the Clocke at after none foreward vnto the werke day than next folowyng vppon payne of iijs. iiij<sup>d</sup>. to be diuided as it is aforesaid.

Freemen leav-  
ing the City  
for a year and  
a day to be  
disfranchised.

Also that no man occupying the saide Crafte within the Citee of london which is enfranchised or hathe serued his termes of apprentishode within the same Citee from hensforward departe oute of the same Citee or the ffraunchise therof and teccheth his Crafte without the said ffraunchises and so contynueth and dwelleth by the space of a yeer and a day. If afterward the same persone resorte vnto the Citee of london agayn that than he be reputed as a fforeyn and be dysmissed and put owte of the ffraunchise of the Citee of london foreuer more accordyng to the lawes of the saide Citee.



Also where it was ordeyned in the tyme of John Hadley sumtyme Maire of the Citee of london that no man shuld be suffred to vse the saide Crafte of Cutlers by him ne by his within this Citee but if he wold be at the Rule of the Surveyours and Maister and Wardeyns of the saide Crafte for the tyme beyng And also to holde all thordenaunces approved of the saide Crafte to his power as any man of the saide Crafte shuld doo vpon payne of vjs viij<sup>d</sup> And forasmoche as the saide penaltie is thought to litle for the breche of this ordenaunce bycause thoffenders ayenst the same fere ne drede not the saide penaltie Therfor it is ordeyned by the saide Thomas Hylle Maire and Aldermen of the Citee aforesaid that if any persone occupying or vsyng the said Crafte within the ffraunchise of the saide Citee hereafter doo the contrarie of the said ordenaunces that than he shall lose and pay as often as he so dothe xiijs iiij<sup>d</sup> to be diuided in maner and fourme abouesaid.

Penalty of refusing to be ruled by the Master and Wardens increased to 13s. 4d.

Qua quidem billa siue supplicacione lecta & per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos plenius intellecta quia videtur eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quod Articuli in dicta billa siue supplicacione contenti sunt boni & honesti ac Rationi Consoni vnanimi assensu & voluntate ordinauerunt & decreuerunt quod Articuli predicti hic intrentur de Recordo modo & forma quibus petuntur futuris temporibus firmiter obseruand', &c. (*Letter-Book L*, f. 210a.)

Ordinance approved by Court of Aldermen.

## LV. ORDINANCES OF THE CUTLERS.

(18th July, 1488, 3 Henry VII.)

Memorandum quod xvij<sup>o</sup> die Julij anno regis Regni Henrici septimi tercio magister Gardiani ac alij probi homines Artis siue Mistere Cultellariorum Ciuitatis london venerunt hic in Curia dicti domini Regis Camera Guihalde Ciuitatis predictae coram Willielmo Horne milite Maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem Ciuitatis & porrexerunt eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quandam billam siue supplicacionem cuius tenor sequitur in hec verba scilicet To the right honourable lord the Mair and Aldermen of the Citee of london. Shewen vnto yo<sup>r</sup> lordeship and maister-shippes the Maister Wardeyns and ffealship of the Crafte and mistere of Cutlers within the Citee of london that where their predecessours longe tyme afore this haue made many and diuers ordenaunces which haue not been auctorised within the said Citee for the politique guydyng of the same mistere which ordenaunces as well they as their predecessours haue peasibly enioyed vnto nowe of late that the Maister and Wardeyns the which nowe been by yo<sup>r</sup> honourable commaundement brought in their booke of their ordenaunces in to theldhall where ye commaunded all suche ordenaunces as were not auctorised by the Auctoritee of this honourable Court to be cancelled and vterly to be voyde Wherethrough the said Maister and Wardeyns for lacke of ordenaunces be not of power to Rule their said mistere

Petition of the Cutlers.

Unauthorised ordinances made by their predecessors have long been enjoyed.

They bring in their books for cancelling such orders.

New  
ordinances  
submitted for  
approval.

Livery to pay  
4*d.* as  
quarterage.

Freemen, 2*d.*  
quarterly.

Journeymen  
absent with-  
out licence to  
pay a week's  
wages.

Master con-  
cealing such  
absence fined  
3*s.* 4*d.*

Fine of  
13*s.* 4*d.* for  
reviling  
Master or  
Wardens.

Fees payable  
to the Clerk.

The Articles  
approved.

without yo<sup>r</sup> lordeship and maistershippes be shewed vnto theym in that behalfe  
Pleas it therefore yo<sup>r</sup> said lordeship and maistershippes to graunt vnto yo<sup>r</sup> said  
besechers thordenaunces vnderwriten to haue and to enioye the same by youre  
Auctorite lyke as they haue vsed and enjoyed by their owne Auctoritees and comon  
assent. ffirst that euery man enfraunchised in the said mistere of Cutlers beyng in  
the Clothyng of the same mistere shall pay quarterly to the Maister and Wardeyns of  
the said mistere for the tyme beyng iiij*d.* for diligence and labor made aboute the  
Serche in the same Crafte by the same Maister and Wardeyns within the said fealship  
and euery persone enfraunchised in the saide Crafte not beyng of the Clothyng and  
occupying a Shoppe shall pay to the said Maister and Wardeyns iij*d.* quarterly for  
the cause abouesaid toward the coste and charge of the said Maister and Wardeyns  
and fealship.

Also if any Allowes or covenaut seruaunt with any of the said fealship  
of Cutlers absent or withdrawe hym self from his maisters seruice by nyght or by  
day or lyeth oute of his maisters hous without licence of his said maister shall pay  
at euery tyme that he so dothe to the Maister and Wardeyns of the said mistere for  
the tyme beyng the value of a woks wages after the rate of his wages as he shall  
take by the yeere towards the sustentacion of the poure menne of the said Crafte.

And if any suche Allowes or covenaut seruaunt withdrawe or absent hym  
self oute of his maisters hous as is abouesaid his maister havyng knowlege thereof  
concele it and wilnot compleyn thereof to the said maister shall pay iij*s.* iiij*d.* at  
euery tyme that he so dothe the oon half thereof to the Chamber of london And  
that other half toward the sustentacion of the poure people aforesaid.

Also that no persone of the said Crafte from hensforth rebuke or revile the  
Maister or Wardeyns of the said Crafte for the tyme beyng or any other honest  
man of the same Crafte, he that so doth shall lose and pay xij*s.* iiij*d.* to be diuided  
in maner and fourme aforesaid.

Also that euery persone enfraunchised in the said Crafte hereafter pay vnto the  
Clerke of the said Crafte that is to say he that is or hath been Maister of the said  
Crafte shall pay xx*d.* and he that is or hath been wardeyn shall pay xij*d.* And that  
euery other persone beyng of the Clothyng of the said Crafte pay viij*d.* And euery  
persone not beyng of the Clothyng of the said Crafte pay iiij*d.* yeerely.

Qua quidem billa siue supplicacione lecta & per dictos Maiorem & Alder-  
mannos plenius intellecta quod videtur eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quod  
Articuli in dicta billa siue supplicacione contenti sunt boni & honesti ac rationi  
consoni vnanimi assensu & voluntate ordinaverunt & decreuerunt quod articuli  
predicti hic intrentur de Recordo modo & forma quibus petuntur futuris temporibus  
firmiter obseruand'. (*Letter-Book L*, f. 259b.)



The order forbidding Misteries to make ordinances without the approval of the Mayor and Aldermen was passed in the previous year, and is as follows :

Order as to approval of ordinances of the Misteries.

Memorandum quod xiiij<sup>o</sup> die decembris anno regni Regis Henrici septimi Tercio consensus est per Willielmum Horne militem maiorem & aldermannos Ciuitatis london quod Gardiani Misterarum dicte Ciuitatis decetero nullo modo faciant ordinaciones in misteris suis nisi eedem ordinaciones approbentur per maiorem & aldermannos pro tempore existentes &c. & super hoc Gardiani diuersarum misterarum importauerunt libros ordinacionum suarum per hanc curiam non approbatarum que quidem ordinaciones cancellate fuerunt & folia eorum librorum in quibus ordinaciones predicte scribuntur fuerunt abscissa, &c. (*Ibid*, f. 238b.)

*Translation.* Be it remembered that on the fourteenth day of December in the third year of the reign of King Henry the Seventh (1487) it was agreed by Sir William Horne, Mayor, and the Aldermen of the City of London that the Wardens of the Misteries of the said City should henceforth in no wise make ordinances in their Misteries unless such ordinances be approved by the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being &c. And thereupon the Wardens of various Misteries brought in books of their Ordinances not sanctioned by this Court, the which Ordinances were cancelled and the leaves of their books on which the aforesaid Ordinances are written were torn out, &c.

## LVI. ORDINANCES OF THE BLADESMITHS.

(30th July, 1501, 16 Henry VII.)

Memorandum quod tricesimo die Julij anno Regni Regis Henrici septimi sextodecimo Gardiani ac alij probi homines Artis siue Mistere de Bladsmythes Ciuitatis london venerunt hic in Curia domini Regis in Camera Guihald' Ciuitatis predicte coram Willielmo Remyngton Maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem Ciuitatis & porrexerunt eisdem Maori et Aldermannis quandam billam siue Supplicacionem cuius tenor sequitur in hec verba scilicet To the Right honourable lord the Maire of the Citee of london and the worshipfull soueraynes thaldermen of the same Shewen vnto youre Gode lordship and maisterships yo<sup>r</sup> poure Oratours the Wardeyns and thonest ffolke of the Crafte of Bladsmythes of the said Citee that where they and their predecessours in tyme passed haue weell and honestly lyved by the same (Craft) and occupacion and also haue ben of habilité and power to bere almaner taxes and tallages vppon them leyd and assessed within the same Citee tille nowe of late that they be empouერeshed by the multitude as well of ffremen as of fforeyns daily vsyng and occupying the same Crafte of Bladesmythes hauyng litill ( ) or experience in the same take vppon them to make bladys and

Bladesmiths' petition.

Strangers use their Craft.

And make deceitful blades. and other tolys concernyng the said occupacion and Crafte whiche bladys and other tolys ben sleightly sotilly and deceyuably made for lakk of Connyng and Gode experience in the same hadde to the comon hurt of alle the kynges Subgiects Repairyng to the said Citee and also to the grete disclaunder of the same & to thutter decay and distruccion at leynthe of the said Crafte and occupacion onles then a Remedy by youre grete wisdomes the Rather be purvided It may please therefore your said lordship and maisterships for Reformation of the premisses to graunt vnto your said Oratours tharticles hereafter folowyng to be obserued and kept for euermore.

Wardens to rule the whole Craft. ffyrst that euery persone or persones of whate so euer Crafte he or they be fre of that hereafter shall vse exercise or occupie in the said Crafte of Bladesmythes within the said Citee or libertie of the same be vnder the Rule Serche and Correccion of the Wardeyns of the said Crafte for the tyme beyng and them obey in alle thynges consernyng the said Crafte of Bladesmythes And that they nor any of theym shalle haue nor stryke any marke vpon any bladys or tolys by them or any of theym hereafter to be made but such marke or markes as shalbe yeven to theym by the Wardeyns of the same Crafte of Bladesmythes for the tyme beyng and the same marke or markes firste to be enrolled in the yeldhalle afore it be sette or stryken vpon any suche blade or tole and that noman take vpon hym to serche in the said Crafte of Bladesmythes but the Wardeyns for the tyme beyng vpon peyn to forfeit and pay at euery tyme doying the contrary hereunto vjs. viij*℥*. half therof to be applied to thuse of the Chamber of london and the other half to the comon box of the said Crafte of Bladesmythes.

Apprentices to be presented within 6 weeks. Also that euery persone or persones of the same Crafte or any other occupiying the same Crafte that hereafter shalle take any Apprentice or Apprentices present the same Apprentice or Apprentices before the Wardeyns of the said Crafte for the tyme beyng within vj wokes next after the Sealyng of his or their Indentures And then and there to pay xij*℥*. for euery suche apprentice to the comon boxe of the said Crafte towards the Charges of the same Crafte vpon peyn to forfeite and pay vjs. viij*℥*. to be applied in maner and fourme abouesaid. And also to enrolle the same Apprentice or Apprentices within xij monethes next after the sealyng of their said Indentures And that euery suche apprentice or apprentices at sealyng of their Indentures be clene of lymme and lith in their bodys without any deformite for the worshippe of this Cite And that therby they may do the better seruice to their maisters vpon peyn of losyng of xiijs. iiij*℥*. to be diuided in maner and fourme aforseid.

None to revile the Wardens. Also that no persone nor persones of the same Crafte nor any other vsyng or occupyng the same from this tyme forward haue any vnfitting language nor wordes to the Wardeyns for the tyme beyng nor theym nor any other in their presence



Rebuke nor revile for any malys or evill wille And also that no persone nor persones of the same Crafte in nowise arrest nor trouble any other of the same Crafte for any cause or varience betwxt them vnto suche tyme that the persones so at varience first shewe their Greffe to the Wardeyns for the tyme beyng to thentent that the Wardeyns may make an ende therof if they canne And if they cannot make none ende therof thenne the parties to take the lawe at their pleasure And who do contrary hereunto shalle forfeite xxs. to be applied as is abouesaid.

Disputes to be submitted to the Wardens.

Qua quidem billa siue Supplicacione lecta & per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos plenius intellecta quia videtur eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quod Articuli in dicta billa siue Supplicacione sunt boni & honesti & Racioni consoni vnanimi assensu & voluntate ordinauerunt & decreuerunt quod Articuli predicti hic intrentur de Recordo modo & forma quibus petuntur futuris temporibus firmiter obseruand'.  
(*Letter-Book M*, f. 31b.)

Petition granted.

## LVII. ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE BLADESMITHS AND ARMOURERS.

(3rd March 22 Henry VII, A.D. 1506-7.)

Vicesimo tercio die Marcij Anno regni Regis Henrici septimi predicti vicesimo secundo Maior, Chawry, Remyngton, Knesworth, Jennyns, Broun, Hawes, Bradbury, Aylmer, Acherley, Shore, Johnson, Coppynger, ffitz William, Vicecomites. At this Courte of Aldermen It is comaunded by the seyd Maire & Aldermen that theys Articles here vnder wrytyn shalbe entred of Recorde and from hensforth to be obserued and kept by the seid Crafts therin named and specified and by all other occupying the Craft of Bladesmythes whiche Articles long tyme before this was made by thassent of bothe the seid Craftes.

Articles of Bladesmiths and Armourers.

Where before thys diuers contrauersies Stryves and debates haue be moved bytwene the Wardeyns of Bladesmythes on that oon partie and the Wardens of Armurers on that other partie of and for oon Thomas Sutton and Thomas Kyngeston Armurers occupying the seid Craft of Bladesmythes which Thomas Sutton and Thomas Kyngeston weren admytted into the libertie of the seyd Citie by Redempcion Neuertheles it ys agreed bytwene the seyd Wardens and the seyd Thomas Sutton and Thomas Kyngeston and all other persones beyng made ffree by Redempcion or other wise in the seyd Craft of Armurers occupying the seid Craft of Bladesmythes shall obey obserue and kepe all maner serches and ordenaunces of the seid Craft of Bladesmythes whiche ben entred and approved of Record byfore the Maire and Aldermen in the Chamber of the yeldehall of the Citie of london vppon peyne of vjs. viij*d*. to be devydide half to the Chambre and half to the seyd (Craft) of Bladsmythes.

Two freemen of the Armourers to obey the Bladesmiths.



Not to employ  
any "foreyn."

Also yt is agreed bytwene the seyd Wardens that the seyd Thomas Suttone and Thomas Kyngeston nor none other of the seyd Crafte of Armourers occupying the seyd Craft of Bladesmythes shall sett on werke any foreyn to the seyd Craft of Bladesmythes on lesse than he wolbe apprentice vppon the seyd payne.

Bladesmiths of  
the Armourers  
to pay dues to  
the Craft of  
Bladesmiths.

Also it is agreed bytwene the seyd Wardens that all the persones enfreanchised of the seyd Craft of Armourers occupying the seyd Craft of Bladesmythes shall bere kepe and paye all suche maner duties at iiij quarter daies in the seyd Craft of Bladsmythes assigned as the Brethern of the seyd Craft of Bladsmythes done.

And receive  
from them  
their marks.

Also yt is agreed bytwene the seyd Wardens that all persones of the seyd Craft of Armourers occupying the seyd Craft of Bladsmythes shall haue a marke by the seyd Wardens of Bladsmythes to theym assigned as euery ffreman of the seyd Craft of Bladsmythes haven. And the seyd marke to be enrolled in theldhall as all other vsing the occupacion of Bladsmythes don according to an acte made in the seyd Craft of Bladsmythes so that all suche ware by theym made may be knownen for good able and profitable for the kings liege people. (*Letter-Book M*, f. 127b.)

#### LVIII. PETITION OF THE BLADESMITHS FOR UNION WITH THE ARMOURERS.

(25th September 1515, 7 Henry VIII.)

Armourers  
present  
Bladesmiths'  
petition.

Memorandum quod vicesimo quinto die Septembris Anno Regni Regis Henrici octaui Septimo Gardiani ac alij probi homines Artis siue Mistere de Armourers Ciuitatis london venerunt hic in Curia dicti Domini Regis in Camera Guyhalde Ciuitatis predictae coram Georgio Monoux Maiore & Aldermannis eiusdem Ciuitatis & porrexerunt eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quendam billam siue Supplicationem cuius tenor sequitur in hec verba. To the right honorable my lord the Maire of this noble Citie & his brethern the Aldremen Moost tendirley besechen yo<sup>r</sup> lordship & maistershippes yo<sup>r</sup> Orato<sup>r</sup>s & Cocitezeins the hole company & ffeliship of Bladesmythes generally that it may pleas you to Admytte and putte theym in vnyon w<sup>t</sup> the Armourers and by transmutacion to haue & bere the name from hensforth of Armourers w<sup>t</sup>oute eny other addicion And at all tymes to come to be of & w<sup>t</sup> the seyd ffeliship of Armourers as oon Company oon Craft oon name & oon assemblee and vnder the Rule correccion and ordre of the ordynaunces hereafter ensuyng And they shall euer be bound to pray for yo<sup>r</sup> prosperities & the hono<sup>r</sup> of this noble Citie long to endure to the pleasure of God.

Bladesmiths  
seek union  
with the  
Armourers.

(Then follow a set of Ordinances in forty articles for the government of the Armourers' Company, of which the following relate to the Bladesmiths and their craft.)



Also that every persone of the same Craft that is a workman & a maker of Spere heds Swords daggers or knyves that he make the poynts & edges therof all hard and also the Edges & heds of Axes hard to prove it at assay vpon payne of forfaytyng therof.

Edges of spears, &c., to be hard.

And that every maister of the seid Craft sette his owne propre marke vpon his owne worke as vpon heeds of speres knyves & axes & vpon other groose workes that it may be knowen whoo made the same bicause of defawts that perhaps may be found in the making of theym.

Work to bear maker's mark.

And that none of the seid Craft teche his Allowes the Science & Connyng of the same Craft, but oonly to his Apprentice.

Journeymen not to learn trade secrets.

And that no fforeyns from hensforth shall put to sale any maner edge Toole in any Innes or other privy places but oonly in opyn markett at ledenhall on markett daies as in olde tyme is accustomed vpon payne of fforfaiture of all such wares sold or put to sale to the contrary.

"Foreyns" to sell in open market.

And that if any foreyn counterfeite the marke of any freeman & sell eny maner blades so marked w<sup>t</sup> a ffreemans marke to any ffreeman w<sup>yn</sup> this Citie of any other Craft, that than it shalbe liefull to the seid wardeyns w<sup>t</sup> other certeyn honest persones of the seid Craft accompanied w<sup>t</sup> an officer of the Chambre of london for the tyme, to make due serche in all places of the Citie where any such wares be to be sold, or if that any such seid wares be wrought deceivably either by ffreeman or fforeyn, the same wares by theym w<sup>yn</sup> the Citie so founden in whose hands so euer they be, to be brought to the Guyhall & vterly to be forfeited.

Freemen's marks not to be forged.

And where as oftentimes greate hurte is doon & many a man deceyued by vnconnyng Grynders of edge Toole be it enacted from hensforth that no persone of the seid Craft or any other beyng a Grynder take vpon hym to occupie w<sup>yn</sup> the liberties of this Citie Excepte he be proved & habled by the Wardeyns & Chief of the honest persones of the Craft aforeseid vpon payne to pay xij*d*. at every tyme so founden.

Unskilful grinders to be suppressed.

Also that if any such Grynder of Toolles & blades in fourme aforeseid not admytted Or after he be admytted hurte any Chaffer or ware of any other mannes by gryndyng as Sheres & blades w<sup>t</sup> all other such like stuf or wares Excepte Shermens Sheres w<sup>t</sup> the which the seid occupacion doth not entromytte That than any such persones so offendyng shall make a sufficient amendes to the partie so hurte. And further he to be adiudged theryn by the discrecions of the Wardeyns of the seid Craft. And that no persone enfraunchised of the seid Craft shall goo oute of his hous to pray desyre nor fetcche any ware or Chaffer to make or grynde, nor that any persone of the seid Craft shall bere or sende his marke to any fforeyn to be sette vpon any worke by the seid foreyn to be made w<sup>t</sup>oute

And to make amends for work injured.

Marks not to be lent to "foreyns."

there be noman of the seid Craft that hath sufficient connyng to make the same vpon payne to pay at euery tyme so offending xx*℥*. to be employed in maner and fourme abouseid.

Craft's light  
in St. Paul's.

And that the Comonaltie of the seid Craft nowe keepyng a light afore the ymage of o*r* lady of grace in poules Church shall at all tymes hereafter contynue the keepyng of the same. And such persones as shalbe found disobedient to be contributory to the same light to pay to the vse of the seid Craft at euery tyme so offending iiii*℥*. orells to forfeite j*lb*. of wax.

Marks to be  
entered at  
Guildhall.

And that nomaner persone enfraunchised in the seid Craft make eny maner wares of blades Excepte that he have a mark propre to hymself And the same his marke to be shewed in presence of the Wardeyns and by the same Wardeyns the seid marke to be entred in theldhall of Record in eschewyng further preiudice vpon payne of forfeiture of xiijs. iiii*℥*. at euery tyme so offending to be employed in maner & fourme as is aforeseid.

Makers of  
edge tools to  
be under the  
Armourers.

Also that euery persone or persones of what soeuer Craft they be enfraunchised vsyng to make eny blades or Edge Tooles w*thyn* the liberties of this Citie shall at all tymes hereafter be vnder the searche Rule & correccion of the seid Wardeyns and theym obey in all thynges concernyng the same and that they nor eny of theym so occupying & makyng of Edge Tooles to occupie eny marke, But such as shalbe assigned & given theym fromhensforth by the seid Wardeyns of Armourers, And euery offender of this Article to pay at euery tyme so denying to be serched vjs. viii*℥*. to be employed as is aforeseid.

Date of union  
of the two  
crafts.

Also forasmuch as the Wardeyns & Comonaltie aswell of Armourers as the Wardeyns & Comonaltie of Bladesmythes nowe be ioynntly confederat by the Common assent & consent of both the same parties vniuersally, Be it ordeyned that fromhensforth both the seid compaynes so vnyte & knyght togidrs in to oon Craft shall fromhensforth that is to sey from the xxv<sup>th</sup> day of September the yere of o*r* lord Jesu Crist a m<sup>i</sup> v<sup>c</sup> & xv and the vij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the viij<sup>te</sup> be named called & enfraunchised oonly by the name of Armourers w<sup>thout</sup> eny other Addicion in tyme to com foreuermore. And that the apprentices heretofore bound in the seid Craft of Bladesmythes and not yit made ffree, to be enfraunchised in the Craft of Armourers vtterly renounsying the name of Bladesmythes in eschewyng of Inconuenyences hurtes & preiudice which myght happen to ensue yf the contrary shuld be vsed.

Apprentices  
to be  
transferred.

None to seek  
translation.

And that aswele all such persones afore this tyme beyng Armourers as all such persones as were Bladesmythes and nowe be Armourers and their Successours shall in nowise make eny privy labour to be translated to eny other Craft aslong as they shall vse or occupie eny poynnt of eny of these two sciences vnder payne



of forfeiture by hym in that behalf offending of iiij li. the oon half therof to thuse of the Chambre and the other half to the vse of the Common Box of the seid Craft.

Also that no persone enfraunchised aforetyme in the Craft of Armourers or aforetyme enfraunchised in the Craft of Bladesmythes shall in nowise hereafter Reville Rebuke mysname or embraide eny of theym to the other w<sup>t</sup> eny maner vngoodly vnfitting or sedicious words prively or piert, but in goodly maner like brotherly Citezeyns they shall bere & behave theymsel<sup>f</sup> eche to other vnder peyne of forfeiture of vjs. viij<sup>d</sup>. at every tyme so offending, And to be paid to the vse aforeseid by every partie so offending that is to sey euery or either to other so offending seuerally to pay vjs. viij<sup>d</sup>.

Penalty for bad behaviour.

Also that no persone of any other Craft take vpon hym to search eny maner Armour or bladys or other Tooles w<sup>yn</sup> the same ffeliship but oonly the wardeyns of the same Craft forasmuch as they have the parfite knowledge therof rather than eny other persone or persones of eny other science.

No other craft to search.

Also that it may pleas yo<sup>r</sup> good lordship and maisterships that the seid company of Bladesmythes may be generally translated in the Chambre of london at oon day w<sup>oute</sup> further delay And their seid translacion may be freely doon forasmoch as yo<sup>r</sup> bedemen be not of power to pay eny greate sommes of money for their greate poue<sup>rtie</sup>. And all yo<sup>r</sup> seid besechers shall euer be bound to pray for yo<sup>r</sup> good prosperities.

Fee for translation remitted.

Qua quidem billa siue Supplicacione per dictos Maiorem et Aldermannos lecta etc. (Approved and ordered to be entered of record. *Journal* XI, ff. 228-232.)

Petition granted.

## LIX. TRANSLATION OF BLADESMITHS FROM THE ARMOURERS TO THE CUTLERS.

(11th March, 1517-18, 10 Henry VIII.)

fforasmoche as sythen the vnyon heretofore made of the Armorers & Bladesmythes & by reason of the same vnyon diuers & many controuersies discords & debats haue been moved & dependyng betwene the ffelyship of tharmorers on the oon partie and the ffelyship of the Cutlers on thother partie w<sup>t</sup> contynuell sute vnto this Courte on bothe their behalves ffor thappeysyng of which controuersies discords debats & suts & in avoydyng & eshewyng of such Inconueniences as myght therof ensue for lak of Reformacon in that behalff yt ys agreed fully concluded & decreed the day & yere aboueseyd by the seyde Mayr & Aldremen That notw<sup>st</sup>andynge the seyde vnyon all suche as before the seyde vnyon were Bladesmythes which wyll departe from the ffelyship of Armorers vnto the ffelyship of Cutlers & so become Cutlers, That yt shalbe lefull for theym & euery of theym at all tymes hereafter at

To settle disputes between Armourers and Cutlers.

Ordered that bladesmiths may translate from Armourers to Cutlers on paying fees to the Chamber.

Three bladesmiths have so translated.

their pleasures so to doo doyng in that behalff their dueties to this Courte & to the Chambre And suche of theym as wyll contynue styll Armorers shall & may so be & contynewe w<sup>o</sup>ute eny farther busynes or Charge in that behalff. And at this Courte the Chamberleyn hath certifyed to the same That Thomas Oks John Merser & Thomas Jakson which somtyme were Bladesmythes & afterwards by reason of the seyd vnyon were Armorers haue payed their ffynes to the Chambre & been translated to the seyd ffelyship of Cutlers. (*Repertory*, 3, ff, 197b-198.)

## LX. THE CUTLERS' COMPANY TO ASSIGN MARKS TO BLADESMITHS.

(24th January, 1519-20, 11 Henry VIII.)

Petition of the  
Cutlers.

Memorandum quod die Martis scilicet xxiii<sup>o</sup> die Januarij anno regni Regis Henrici Octaui vndecimo Magister Gardiani & alij probi homines artis siue mistere Cultellariorum Ciuitatis london venerunt hic in curia dicti domini Regis in Camera Guihald' eiusdem Ciuitatis coram Jacobo yerford milite maiore laurencio Aylmer milite Georgio Monoux Willielmo Butler milite Johanne Rest Johanne Brugge Rogero Basford Johanne Milborn Roberto ffenroth(er) Roberto Aldernes Johanne Mundy Thoma Baldry Willielmo Bayly Johanne Aleyn Thoma Seymer Jacobo Spencer Johanne Wilkynson & p'trich' Aldermannis ciuitatis predictae Et porrexerunt eisdem maiori & Aldermannis quandam billam siue supplicacionem cuius tenor sequitur in hec uerba. To the Right honorable lord the Maier of this Citie of london and to his worshipfull brethern the Aldermen of the same Mekely shewe and besech yo<sup>r</sup> good lordshepe & maistershippys yo<sup>r</sup> humble Oratourys the Maister & Wardens of the Craft of Cutlers in london That where late certen debats and variaunces were moved & hadde bitwene yo<sup>r</sup> seid Oratours and the Craft of Armururs Concernyng the translatyng of all the Bladesmythes of this Citie ffor the appesyng wherof it was ordeigned and Stablisshed by this honorable Court that all such persones as occupied makyng of Blades & wold be Cutlers shuld be translatid to that Craft and such as wold be Armorers shuld be of that Craft by vertue wherof all the Bladesmythes of this Citie were made Armorers or Cutlers So that in conclusion the seid Craft of Bladesmythes was then vtterly dissolued and all ther Ordenaunces & Rules clerely voide and of none Effecte. And yo<sup>r</sup> seid Oratours dare not presume to make any newe Ordenaunces or rules without favor & licence of yo<sup>r</sup> good lordship & maistershippes It may therfor pleas the same to licence yo<sup>r</sup> seid Oratours and to graunt to theym power that they & their Successours beyng Maister & Wardens of the same Craft as oft as nede shall be may appoynt & assign to euery Brother & freman of the seid Craft of Cutlers occupying makyng blads a Certen marke to be sett vppon their seuerall Blades which they shall make

Late disputes  
between the  
Cutlers and  
Armourers as  
to the blade-  
smiths.

Craft of  
Bladesmiths  
dissolved.

The Cutlers to  
assign marks  
to bladesmiths  
in their Craft.



to thentent yt may be knowen who makyth good & perfite blads and who makyth disceyftfull blads ffurthermore that when such marks be appoynted to suche makers of Blads their names w<sup>t</sup> the same marks to euerye of them assigned may be wretten Regestred & noted in the boks of this honorable Courte here to Remayne of Recorde to thentent aforeseid. And they shall pray to god for your good lordshipe & maistershippes.









Such marks to be of record in the City's books.

Qua quidem billa siue supplicacione lecta & per dictos Maiorem & Aldermannos plenius intellecta quia videtur eisdem Maiori & Aldermannis quod articuli in dicta billa siue supplicacione contenti sunt boni & honesti ac rationi consoni vnanimi assensu et voluntate Ordinauerunt & decreuerunt quod predicti articuli hic intrentur de recordo modo & forma quibus petuntur futuris temporibus firmiter obseruand<sup>z</sup>.

Petition granted.

Et postea videlicet xvij die ffebruarij anno predicto Concordatus est vt sequitur At this Court the Wardayns of Cutlers brought in viij marks gravyn in seuerall peces of Stele & prayed that they myght be entred of Recorde with ther names to whom euery marke belongith. Et concessus est eis &c.

Eight marks registered.

Witfm  hethe Thomas  Okys Marian  Garret John  Pascall  
Witfm  Marlar John  Mercer Thomas  Jakson Thomas  lamynan.  
(*Letter-Book N*, f. 132 a. See facsimile facing p. 118.)

## LXI. LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY, 1537-8.

(Records of the Exchequer. Misc. Books. Vol. xciii.)

The seuerall companies of all the Mysteryes Craftes and occupaciones w<sup>in</sup> the Cytie of London w<sup>t</sup> the names of euery free man beyng householder w<sup>in</sup> the same—[CUTLERS].

Hugh Holmes	Thomas Clyff	Thomas Humfrey
Thomas Atkynson	John Smythe	John Crathorne
John Giles	Cristofer Alec	John Thorneton
John Wilford	John Barton	Richard Rome
John Harryson	Thomas Worme	Rogier Curwyn
John Hayland	John Bull	John Jerom
Marion Garrett	Henr. Heymond	William Haryson
William Symondson	John Porter	Robert Lashford
William Marler	William Page	Hugh Boswell
John Hawkyens	Rogier Griswell	John Yeward
Richard Carter	John Lycetor	William Symondson

John Sterop	Arche Wykham	Richard ffanser
Robert Bell	John Symondson	Thomas Colynson
Robert Harryson	Nicholas Humfrey	Mighell Baker
Myles a Northe	Robert Eltham	Henry Johnson
Antonye Messyngere	Chad Scott	Richard Barrett
William Aleyn	William Thorpp	Richard Colynson
John Ray	Raufe Bryce	Thomas Malynger
Antony Togyll	John Myghell	George Bowre
Thomas Jacson	Thomas flyreby	Thomas Thorpp
William Chatborne	William Smythe	Symond Bowmer
John florster	Thomas Owen	

65 names. There are spaces in the original after Richard Carter (11th) and William Haryson (29th), indicating divisions between the Court of Assistants (11), the Livery (18), and the Freemen or Yeomanry (36).

LXII. FRAGMENT (PROBABLY) OF THE EARLY BOOK OF  
ORDINANCES, KNOWN AS THE "BLAC BOKE." THE  
LAST OF FIVE REMAINING LEAVES, numbered 14.

(8th April, 1540.)

M<sup>d</sup> that there was a Courte kepte in the Cutlars Hall the viij<sup>th</sup> day of Aprell in the xxxj<sup>th</sup> yere of the Reigne of kyng Henry the viij<sup>th</sup> and there beyng at the same courte Hugh Holmes then beyng Maister of the seid Crafte, Thomas Atkynson and John Gyles then beyng Wardeyns, John Wylford, John Haryson, John Aylain, William Marler, John Hawkyns, Richard Carter, Thomas Clyfe, John Smyth and Christofer Alee, and at the same courte theye where alle agreed that from that day forthwarde that alle them that be of the lyverey and euery brother of the crafte shall pay no more but iiijd. a quarter. And also that the maister of the Crafte shall haue allowed of the crafte for euery high dyner that is kepte iiijli., and also shall haue allowed euery yere for the cooke xs. And also it was agreed that euery man of the lyueree and brothers and their wifes shall paye at euery high dyner xijd. And also it was at the same courte agreed that euery man that shall come in to the lyueree of the Crafte from that day forthward shall pay to the Maister (of the) Crafte for the tyme beyng iiij. viijd. And also that (euery man) at his first enteraunce and comyng into the lyueree of (the seid) Crafte shall pay at the first high dyner after his enteraunce for hymself and for his wyfe ijs. viijd.



LXIII. NAMES OF MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF ASSISTANTS,  
TAKEN FROM LEASES GRANTED BY THE COMPANY,  
1547-1564, A PERIOD FOR WHICH THE COMPANY'S  
RECORDS ARE WANTING.

9 September, 1 Edward VI. Thomas Atkynson, Christopher Lee, John 1547  
Leycetur, with the hole consent of the counsell and body, viz. John Wylforde,  
Richard Carter, Renter, John Smythe, Thomas Clyffe, John Porter, Roger  
Greswycke, John Crathorn, John Eylande, John Jerom, Thomas Smaledge, Thomas  
Worme, Richard Clarke, and William Page.

2 March, 3 Edward VI. Richard Carter, John Leycetur, John Crathorn, with 1549-50.  
the consent of the assystents :—Thomas Atkynson, John Smythe, Renter, Christo-  
pher Lee, Thomas Clyffe, John Porter, John Eylande, John Jarom, Thomas  
Smalledge, Thomas Worme, William Page, and Richard Clarke.

16 October, 4 Edward VI. John Smith Mr, John Eylande John Jerom, 1550.  
Wardens. Assistants :—Thomas Atkynson, Richarde Carter, Crystofre Lee Renter,  
John Leycetur, Thomas Clyffe, John Craithorne, John Porter, Thomas Smalledge,  
Thomas Worme, Wyllyam Page, Rycharde Clarke, Wyllyam Thorpe, Wyllyam  
Hodgeson, Rycharde Rome, Thomas Bukke, George Haryson, and Laurence Grene.

16 February, 6 Eliz. Laurans Grene, William Wood, Thomas Malyge, with 1563-4.  
the consent of the Assistants . . . that ys to saye Richard Carter, John Jaramé,  
William Hodgeson, Renter, Thomas bucke, George Haryson, Thomas Symonds,  
Roger burson, Thomas Edlen, and Rychard Atkynson.

LXIV. ADMISSION TO THE FREEDOM OF JOHN SON OF  
SAMAN THE KNIFESMITH. (5th March, 1309-10.)

Johannes filius Samanni knyfsmyth admissus fuit in libertatem Ciuitatis & Johannes filius  
jur' &c. coram Maiore & Aldermannis die & anno predictis eo quod compertum Semanni le  
est per vetus papirum quod steterit cum Stephano atte Holte a festo Nativitatis knyfsmyth.  
Domini anno regis Edwardi filii regis Edwardi xvj<sup>o</sup> vsque ad finem decem annorum Exitus. Corn-  
& predictus Stephanus venit & testatur quod predictus Johannes sibi bene & fideliter hill.  
deseruiuerit & terminum suum compleuit & ipsum quiet' clam' &c. Et dat  
communitati ijs. vjd. (*Letter-Book D*, f. 41b.)

TRANSLATION.

John the son of Saman the knifesmith was admitted into the freedom of the  
City and sworn &c. before the Mayor and Aldermen on the day and year aforesaid

John son of  
Seman the  
knifesmith.  
Freedom.  
Cornhill.

for that it appeared by an old record that he served with Stephen atte Holte from the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord in the sixteenth year of King Edward the son of King Edward to the end of ten years, and the aforesaid Stephen came and testified that the aforesaid John had served him well and faithfully and completed his term, and he released his claim upon him &c. And he pays 2*s.* 6*d.* to the Commonalty.

LXV. APPRENTICES ENROLLED AND FREEMEN ADMITTED.  
(1442-1498.)

(*Note*.—The following names are the only guide to the personality of the Company for the next generation, owing to the unfortunate gap in the records. The repetition of names in the entries of “arrerages” has been avoided, except in the first few accounts.)

20-21 Hen.  
VI.

1442-3.

receyued of John Dey in part of payment of xxvijs. behynde for William Smyth and John Bigwode his apprentices . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
receyued of John Roos in partie of payment of vjs. viijd. behinde for Nicholas Thomeson his apprentice . . . . .	ijs. iiijd.
receyued of John Welles of arrerages for William Stanes his apprentice	xiijs. iiijd.
receyued of (William) Godyngbrigge in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behynde for Robert Holy his apprentice . . . . .	xs.
receyued of John Archer in partie of payment of xs. behynde for his Entree . . . . .	iijs. iiijd.
receyued of Thomas Otehill in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behynde for William Seton his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
receyued of John Chilton in partie of payment of xvjs. viijd. behinde for Richard Arker his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
receyued of Richard Asser and John Amell vndertakers for xxs. due to the Craft by James Beaugraunt for Thomas Baron his apprentice	xxs.
receyued of John Amell in part of payment of xls. behinde for John Payn and Walter Pilsty his apprentices . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
receyued of John Marchal in payment of xls. behynde for John Sylverton and Thomas Siluerton his apprentices . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
receyued of William Bode for his Entree . . . . .	xs.

Arrerages of apprenticehodes and entres.

Hugh Kenneston behind for (erasure) . . . . .	xxs.
Thomas Pakeman for Gregory Walker his apprentice . . . . .	xvjs. viijd.
John Sanston for (blank) his apprentice . . . . .	vjs. viijd.
Gefferey Guybon for (blank) his apprentice by obligacion . . . . .	xxs.



Richard Whitehere for Richard Bekenshawe his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
John Trege for John Daborn his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
Richard Asser for Robert (blank) his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
John Hosyer for William Rys otherwise called William Prentys his apprentice . . . . .	xxs.
Item the same John of arrerages of his entre . . . . .	vs.
There is due by John Chilton that come in this yere for his entre . . . . .	xs.

This money is due to the Craft for the new apprentices that come in this yere.

ffirst John Grygge prentice with William Smyth . . . . .	xxs.
Richard Otehill prentice with Thomas Otehill . . . . .	xxs.
John Lane apprentice with John Lane . . . . .	xxs.
John Huchons apprentice with John Howys . . . . .	xxs.
John Hert prentice with Thomas Hamond . . . . .	xxs.
Richard lekevey prentice with Robert Pykmere . . . . .	xxs.

1443-4.

21-2 Hen. VI.

receyued of John Roos in ful payment of xxs. for Nicholas Thomson his  
apprentice iijs. iiijd.

receyued of William Godyngbrigge in ful payment of xxs. for Robert Holy his  
apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyued of Thomas Otehyll in part of payment of xs. of arrerages for William  
Seton his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyued of John Chilton in part of payment of xs. of arrerages for Richard Arker  
his apprentice iijs. iiijd.

receyued of John Amell in part of payment of xxxijs. iiijd. of arrerages for John  
Payn and Walter Pilsty his apprentices vjs. viijd.

receyued of Margaret that was the wyf of John Marchal in part of payment of  
xxxiijs. iiijd. of arrerages for John Silvertou and Thomas Silvertou his  
apprentices xs.

receyued of Richard Asser in part of payment of xxs. for Robert . . . . . his  
apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyued of John Howys in part of payment of xxs. for John Huchons his  
apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyued of Robert Pykmere of olde dette for an apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyued of the same Robert in part of payment of xxs. for Richard Kekevey  
(Lekeley) his apprentice iijs. iiijd.

receyued of Richard Whitehere in part of payment of xxs. for Richard Bekenshawe  
his apprentice iijs. iiijd.

receyued of Thomas Pakeman in part of payment of xviijs. viijd. of arrerages for  
Gregory Walker his apprentice iijs. iiijd.

receyued of John Archer in ful payment of xs. for his entre vjs. viijd.  
 receyued of John Chilton for his entre xs.  
 by John Dey behinde of William Smythe and John Bygwode his apprentices  
 xxjs. iiijd.  
 John Sanstone for . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 Gefferey Guybon for . . . . his apprentice by obligacion xxs.  
 John Hosyer for William Rye called William Prentys his apprentice xxs.  
 for his entree vs.  
 Thomas Otehill for Richard Otehill his apprentice xxs.  
 John Lane for John Lane his apprentice xiijs. iiijd.  
 Thomas Hamond for John Hert his apprentice xxs.  
 Robert Pykmere for Richard Lekeley his apprentice xvjs. viijd.

This is the money due to the Craft for the Newe apprentices that come in this yere.

William Broun for Roger Soket his apprentice xxs.  
 John ffantrede for Roger Waltham his apprentice xxs.  
 Thomas Pakeman for John Barnet his apprentice xxs.  
 John Dey for Stephen Dey his apprentice xxs.  
 John Whitby for John Colarde his apprentice xxs.  
 John Chilton for Richard Robertesson his apprentice xxs.  
 John Westowe for Henry Stakour his apprentice xxs.  
 John Boydon for Thomas Lokas his apprentice xxs.  
 John Eland for Roger Bulford his apprentice xxs.  
 Roger Lasshe for William Sone his apprentice xxs.  
 Richard Asser for John Hildreton his apprentice xxs.

22-3 Hen. VI. 1444-5.

receyued of John Abyrn for his entre xs.

This is the money due to the Craft for newe apprentices that come in this yere.  
 by William Broun for Thomas Stamper his apprentice xxs.  
 Thomas Couper for John Brian his apprentice xxs.  
 Richard Whitehere for William Wilkyn his apprentice xxs.  
 John Ponde apprentice of John (Richard) Lasshe his apprentice xxs.

27-8 Hen. VI. 1449-50.

receyved of Thomas Pope for Thomas Hedeley his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Smythe for John Couper his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Hosyer for William Barcastre his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Walton for Robert Lud . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Payne for John Payne his apprentice vjs. viijd.



receyved of Richard Howys for Robert Hylton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Robert Pykmer for John Wodecot his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Henry Kendale for John Alwyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Heydour for William Stevens his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of the seide Henry Kendale for Richard Nichol his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Baret (?) for Roger E . . . rd his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of James Begeraunt for [illegible] his apprentice vijs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Brynkenell for William Bartelot his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1450-1.

28-9 Hen. VI.

Receyved of Thomas Pope for Thomas Hedeley his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of the same Thomas Pope for William Shethe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Payne for John Payne his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Richard Howys for Robert Hylton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Brynkenell for William Bartelot his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Broun for Edmund Mannyng his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Amell for Richard ffry his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Nicholas Belle for Roger Symonds his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Smythe for John Skynner his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of the same William for Thomas Higham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Henry Penhergard for Thomas Nichol his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Nicholas Gonell for John ffromond his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Hosyer for John Drew his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 received of William Eydour for his entre xs.  
 received of John Balle in partie of payment of his entre vjs. viijd.  
 John Balle oweth in partie of payment of his entre iijs. iiijd. solutos per Trille.  
 Thomas Pope xs. solutos.  
 Thomas Barret xs. solutis iijs. iiijd.  
 John Aleyn xs. solutos.  
 John ffenford xs. mortuus est.  
 Richard Swayne xxs.  
 (John) Kyng oweth to the Craft for apprentice of Botery whos terme he bought  
 vjs. viijd.

1452-3.

30-1 Hen. VI.

*(The Accounts for this year are much decayed and in parts quite illegible.)*

receyved of Rauf Wodcock for John Aleyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Ayland for Piers Rees his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Boydon for Richard Toker his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Nicholas Gonell for John Suker his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Archer for John Bradnam his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyved of John Sybenham for John More his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of . . . . dall for John Chirburgh his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Walton for William Cowche (?) his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Henry Kendale for . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Tryll for John . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Richard Lasshe for William Kyng his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 Johannem Balle pro Roberto Shawe apprenticio suo vjs. viijd.

31-2 Hen. VI. 1453-4.

receyved of John Walton for his entrees xs.  
 receyved of Henry Penhergard for his entrees xs.  
 receyved of Robert fferyby for his entrees xs.  
 receyved of Thomas Chauntrell for his entrees xs.  
 receyved of Robert Pykmer for Thomas Shortcote his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John ffordam for Stephen . . . and John Halker his apprentices xiijs. iiijd.  
 receyved of William Haydour for John Hoton and John Halys his apprentices xiijs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Worthingbrigge for Henry Bret his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Walton for Nicholas Cony (mortuus est) his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Dawe for William Kyng his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Richard Howys for John Harryes his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John ffenford for Benet Horsham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Yerde for Richard Wanbrigge his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Richard ffurbour for Thomas Braundon his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Otehill for Thomas Clarence his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Catour for William Bromfeld his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Trille for Walter Randson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Henry Penhergard for ffelix Yenevey his apprentice vjs. viijd.

34-5 Hen. VI. 1456-7. (Receipts of Arrerages.)

the arrerages of the entre of Robert fferyby xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of Thomas Chauntrell xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of Richard Howys xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of William Seyton xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of Stephen Plumer xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of Nicholas Gouyld xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of John Dawe xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of John Munde xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of Raaf Wodecok xs.  
 the arrerages of the entre of John hosyer vs.



1458-9.

36-7 Hen. VI.

the arrerages of the entre of Richard Howys vjs. viijd.  
received of Symon Jacond for his entre this yere xd.  
received of Thomas Trille for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of Thomas Otehill for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of John Aleyn for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of William Seton for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of John Robertson for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of Thomas Pope for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of Stephen plumer for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of John Ball for his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
received of henry penhargard for his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1459-60

37-8 Hen. VI.

Entrees of Brethren nil.  
Entrees of apprentices nil.

1461-2.

1-2 Edw. IV.

the Interesse of William Vale this yere xs.  
receyued of John Robert in party of payment of vs. by him due at the last accompt  
next before this accompt for the entresse of william lemman apprentice xxd.  
receyued of John Monde for John Maners his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Thomas Otehill for John Sharpe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Roos for William Bus his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Robert Pykmere for henry Pykmere his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John ffordam for John hayward his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Brown for William Whitcop his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Thomas Pope for John Garbesham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Vale for William More his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Agneys Brown for John Crestemas her apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of the same Agneys Brown for henry Padworth her apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Rauf Wodecok for Robert lychefeld his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Richard howes for James Standisshe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of the forsaied Robert Pykmer for Michell Acres his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Goffe for Richard Harryson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Robert holy for William Clif his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of henry Penhargare for William lawrence his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1462-3.

2-3 Edw. IV.

the entresse of John howseman Bladesmyth this yere xxs.  
of John Catour for Thomas Thorp his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of Thomas Trill for William Sprigge his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Thomas Pope for William Pepir his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Nicholas Asser of arrerages for henry Scot his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Toker of arrerages for William Synnam his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Roos of arrerages for William Rolf his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by John kyng of arrerages for the entresse of william Bardall his apprentice iijs. iiijd.  
 by John hillesley for the entresse of John Ouerer his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by John Walton for Stephen ffreman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by the same John Walton for Richard Stannesby his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by William Stephens of his arrerages for Robert Siltisson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by Stephen Plumer for Thomas heley his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by William Worthyngbrigge for william Turtillbury his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 by William Petite for william Trowe his apprentice vjs. viijd.

4-5 Edw. IV. 1464-5.

the entresse of John Browne xs.  
 the entresse of Walter Raunsom xs.  
 the entresse of Robert Lymber xs.

5-6 Edw. IV. 1465-6.

the entresse of William Bromflete this yere xs.  
 the entresse of Roger Soker xs.  
 the entresse of Richard Wilcokks Bladesmyth xxs.  
 the entresse of Morte Bladesmyth xxs.  
 the entresse of John Charyet Bladesmyth xxs.  
 the entresse of Edward Waltham xiijs. iiijd.  
 the entresse of William Heymond xs.  
 of John Jetter for his apprentice vjs. viijd.

7-8 Edw. IV. 1467-8.

entresses of newe Brethirn nil.  
 interesse of Thomas Clarence xs.  
 receyued of John Morth by the handes of Thomas Pope in partie of payment of  
 xxs. for the Interesse of the same John Morth xs.  
 receyued of William Bromflete for George Masham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Broun for Robert Byddyk his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Thomas Bywell for John Osworth his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Thomas Chamberleyn for Herry Preston his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Water Raunsom for John Carrok his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Aylsmere for Thomas Buschet his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Rauf Wodkok for Roger Grenebank his apprentice vjs. viijd.



of John Toker for Nicholas Rowland his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Water Raunsom for Richard Gybson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of William Asser for John atte hille his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of henry Penhargar for William Partriche his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Robert for William Alynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Walton for John Bomme his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of William Seton for George Clerk his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Drue for William Kayn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of William Hayder for William Martyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Monde for William Gille his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of John Goffe for herry fferby his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 of Thomas Clarence for William humfrey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyued of Richard Robertson for John hoggeson his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1468-9.

8-9 Edw. IV.

the interesse of Richard Otehill xs.  
 the Interesse of Denys Duraunt xs.  
 the Interesse of Thomas Chamberleyn xs.  
 the Interesse of Thomas Bywell xs.  
 the Interesse of John Colard xs.  
 the Interesse of John Nycoll xs.  
 the Interesse of ffelyx Jenney xs.  
 the Interesse of John Aylismere xs.  
 the Interesse of Robert Richers xs.  
 receyued of William Haymond in partie of payment of xs. remaynyng by him  
 vnpaid of his interesse ijs. iiijd.  
 receyued of Robert Pykmere for Roger Pykmere and John Russell his apprentices  
 xiijs. iiijd.  
 ffelix Jannay for Davy Gough his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 Denys Duraunt for John fforthe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 Robert Rycheris for John Tarllarie his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 William Vale for Robert Morteyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 William Goffe for Robert ferby his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 Symond Newton for John Burre his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyued of John Drue in partie of payment of vjs. viijd. for the interesse of his  
 apprentice William Kayn ijs. iiijd.  
 receyued of Thomas Chamberleyn in partie of payment of vjs. viijd. for the  
 interesse of his apprentice Herry Preston xxd.  
 receyued of Thomas Pope for William Humfrey the apprentice of Thomas  
 Clarence vjs. viijd.

Arrerages of Interesse of newe brethern and of apprentices.

Thomas Heyham for the interesse of Richard Holdenby his apprentice vjs. viijd.

Nycolas Asser for interesse of Richard Wilson his apprentice vjs. viijd.

John Morthe remaynyng vnpaid of xxs. for his interesse xs.

9-10 Edw.  
IV.

1469-70.

Enteresses of newe Brethirn

the interesses of John White xs.

the interesses of William Colet Bladesmyther xxs.

Receites of arrerages of interesses of Brethern

Receuyed of Thomas Chamberleyn xs.

of Thomas Bywell vs.

of John Collard xs.

of ffelix Janney xs.

of John Ailismere vs.

of Robert Richardes xs.

Interesses of apprentices

Receuyed of Thomas Chamberleyn for William fforest his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of Richard Chirche for William Spicer his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Bromfeld for Hery Laurence his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Layfeld for Hugh Richeman his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Calker for Thomas ffordam his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Catour for William Romyng his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Hertwell for John Adamson his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Robert for Robert Philip his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Amell for William Bykyll his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Mund for John Wycombe his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of Thomas Pope for John Kenyngale his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Seton for Richard Trot his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Toker for William Grene his apprentice vjs. viijd.

10-11 Edw.  
IV.

1470-1.

Receytes for ingresses of apprentices

receuyed of ffelix Janewey for William flode his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Asser for John Swan his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Chaunt for William Litolwode his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of Thomas Nicoll for . . . . vjs. viijd.

of John Robertson for John Pye his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of William Layfeld for John Buktrolle his apprentice vjs. viijd.

of John Broun for William Walle his apprentice vjs. viijd.



of Waltier Rawnson for Richard Edmond his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Edmond Mannyng for John Broun his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Robert Richeres for John Thornburgh his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Robert Pykmere for William Hedon his apprentice vjs. viijd.

Receytis of arrerages of interesse of apprentices.

of Margarete late the wif of Thomas Pope for John Kenyngale his apprentice in part of payment of vjs. viijd. . . . iijs.

Arrerages of interessess of newe Brethern and of apprentices Within the tyme of this Accompt due by dyuers persones vnderwriten.

by Thomas Nicoll for Alysandyr Thlewde (? Lloyd) his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
by Nicholas Asser for John Hill (Hall) his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
by Richard Chirche for the interesse of Richard Spiser his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1471-2.

Enteresses of new Bretheryn.

11-12 Edw.  
IV.

receyued of William Layfeld for his interesse xs.  
of William Hertwell for his entresse xs.  
of Symon Newenton for his entresse xs.  
of William Steleman for his entresse xs.  
of Richard Chirche for his entresse xs.  
of Richard Nycoll for his entresse xs.  
of Robert Leger Screvener for his entresse xxs.  
receyued of Thomas Nicoll in party of payment of xs. by hym due for his entresse vs.

Receytes for interessess of apprentices.

receyued of William Bromfeld for Robert Botiller his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Waltier Raunson for John Petre his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Steleman in full payment of vjs. viijd. for the entresse of John Kenyngale late the apprentice of Thomas Pope nowe the apprentice of the seid William ijs. viijd.  
of the same William Steleman for Robert Drefeld and Robert Kyng his apprentices xiijs. iiijd.  
of John Spannesby for William Woderooft his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Seton for Robard Johnson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Herry Penharger for John Robert his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Vale for John Cottelman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Robert Pykmere for Edmond Hall his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Richard Chirche for Thomas Lichfeld his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Monde for Herry Malman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyued of ffelix Janewey in party of payment of vjs. viijd. for William fflode his apprentice ijs. iiijd.

13-14 Edw.  
IV.

1473-4.

receyuid of William Steleman in full payment of xs. for his interesse vs.  
receyuid of John Aylesmere in full payment of xs. for his interesse vs.

Receytes of interestes of apprentices.

receyuid of Roger Soket for William Crosby his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Rawsons Wyf for Robert a Browys hyr apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Robyns for Thomas Letters his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Martyll for Richard Blaknall his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Robertson for John Humfrey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Bromfeld for William Drake hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Balle for Richard Balle hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Rauff Wodecok for John Reede hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Henry Penharger for Robert Wright hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Calcar for William Whytoft his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Symond Neweton for Thomas ffoster hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Thomas Shawe for William Hall hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Richard Robertson for Hugh ffletcher hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Vale for John Preston hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Ha . . . for John Storurre his apprentice vjs. viijd.

Receytes of arrerages of interestes of apprentices.

receyuid of Thomas Chamberleyn in full payment of vjs. viijd. for John Bernes  
hys apprentice vs.

14-15 Edw.  
IV.

1474-5.

receyuid of John Chamber for arrerages of his interesse at the last accompt xs.  
receyued of Thomas Nicoll in full payment of xs. for hys interesse vs.

Receytes of interestes of apprentices.

receyuid of Denys Deraunt for Thomas Garard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Edmond Mannyng for Herry Haldon his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Layfeld for Thomas Balke hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Barnfeld for William Barton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Robynson for Robert Andrewe hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of John Chamber for Thomas Lauyngton his apprentice vjs. viijd.

Receytes of arrerages of interestes of apprentices.

receyued of John Calcar for William Whytoft hys apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Symond Newenton for Thomas ffoster his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Thomas Shawe for William Hall his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Richard Robertson for Hugh ffletcher hys apprentice vjs. viijd.



of William Bromfeld for William Crosby his apprentice late the apprentice of Roger Somet vjs. viijd.

of William Steleman for Richard Spycer his apprentice late the apprentice of Richard Chyrche vjs. viijd.

of John Towker for John Swan hys apprentice late the apprentice of William Asser vjs. viijd.

1475-6.

15-16 Edw.  
IV.

receyuid of John Monke wexchaundeller for his interesse xxs.

receyuid of John Pykton for his interesse xxs.

receyuid of John Colyn for that he was admytted freman into the seid Craft xxvjs. viijd.

receyuid of John Drewe for John Albright his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of william Barnfeld for John Barton his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of John Robyns for Edward Westwode his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of Robert Pykemere for John Dawne his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of John hyll for John Gonnell his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of John Walton for martyn loryng his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of William Asser for that he vndertoke for Thomas highman for the

Interesse of Richard holdenby apprentice of the seid Thomas highman vjs. viijd.

receyuid of humfrey pares for the interesse of Thomas lychefeld the apprentice of Richard Chirche vjs. viijd.

receyuid of John Mundes in party of payment of xxs. by hym due and owyng for the Interesse of william Gyll John Wycombe and herry malman his apprentices certeyn stuff vnderwryten to the value of xliijs. vjd. ob. ffirst a brasse potte weying xliij lb. iij quarters price the lb. ijd. Item a charger vij platers iij dysshes a rownde potell potte of peauter weiyng all to geder xxxiiij lb. price the lb. ijd. ob. Summa xliijs. ijd.

Item receyuid of John Bull in party of payment of vjs. viijd. old arrerages by hym due for the Interesse of . . . . . his apprentice iiijs. ijd.

1476-7.

16-17 Edw.  
IV.

receyuid of William Barneveld for his Interesse xs.

receyuid of Thomas Shawe for his interesse xs.

receyuid of Robert Catte for his interesse xs.

receyuid of Robert Catte for Robert Dover his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of Thomas Shawe for John Douell his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of Thomas Pakeman for John Rychards his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of Julian Rawson for John Cokson his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyuid of John Balle for Thomas Gardener his apprentice vjs. viijd.

17-18 Edw.  
IV.

1477-8.

receyvid of John Aylond for Robert Travnt his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Rachell for John a Morton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Robert Bedyk for William Belle his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of William Barnefeld for John Boys his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Calker for Thomas Mathewe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Thomas Thorp for mathewe hayward his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of William layfeld for Edmund Germuerdesey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Julian' Rawson for John Baylly her apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyued of John hill for Thomas lamyman his apprentice vjs. viijd.

Receyts of arrerages of quarterages

ffirst of John Chamber xijd.

Item of John Haymond xijd.

18-19 Edw.  
IV.

1478-9.

receyvid of Edmund mannyng for his intresse xs.  
receyvid of John Spanysby for his intresse xs.  
receyvid of william higham for Robert florster his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of William Vale for Thomas Preston his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Towker for henry Bonde his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Thomas Chamberleyn for John Ryder his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Julyan Rawson for Edmund Terry her apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Ball for Thomas Gardyner his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John hill for Robert Abraham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Spanysby for John Eton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Broun for John wilforth his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Elismere for Nicolas Bate his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of Dame Agnes houseman late the wyf of John houseman for the arrerages  
of his quarterages for xj yeres xjs.

19-20 Edw.  
IV.

1479-80.

receyvid of Robert Boys for his intresse xs.  
receyvid of william Barnefeld for Thomas Gobelet his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Robyns for John Elteham his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of the same John Robyns for John ffreeman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William Steleman for William Pillowe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of Richard Robert for William Byndeles his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
of William hertwell for William hynkys his apprentice vjs. viijd.

20-21 Edw.  
IV.

1480-1.

receyvid of William Brownefeld for John Swayne his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyvid of John Pakeman for Bartylmewe Drewe his apprentice vjs. viijd.



receyvid of William Seton for Robert Goldrup his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William layfeld for Robert Berton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Chamberleyne for William Burgh his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Rachell for John Jeram his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Chambyr for George Seman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Boys for William Aythorp his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Petir yerd for Edmund ffreman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Shawe for Thomas Tyesdale his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Symond Nevynnton for Richard Grote his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Tyler for John Clement his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of henry laurence for Thomas haynes his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Spanmysby for Thomas Webbe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William layfeld for William aWere his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Shawe for Robert Ryffyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Browne for John Baylle his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Chamberleyn for Richard Wygam his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William Vale for Thomas hornecluf his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William hartewell for William hynkys his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1483-4.

1 Edw. V.—  
1 Ric. III.

receyuyd of Elizabeth key widowe for her Interesse xxs.  
 receyuyd of John Aylond in party of payment of xs. for his interesse vs.  
 receyuyd of John Robynson for Thomas Noell his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of John Petyr for John Malgeer his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of William Stowre for Richard Maxey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of John Aylond for Andrewe wright his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of Robert Botiller for John Wheryngton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of Thomas Smyth for Rychard Turnour his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of Thomas Chamberleyn for Richard loryng his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of William layfeld for John . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of Robert Tyler for John Melys his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyuyd of William Steleman for the interesse of Robert de la Ryver his apprentice  
 vjs. viijd.

1484-5.

1-2 Ric. III.

receyuyd of maister John Dey for his Interesse xs.  
 receyuyd of Robert Dey for his Interesse xs.  
 receyuyd of John ffaux for his enteresse xs.  
 receyuyd of Robert Botiller for his enteresse xs.  
 receyuyd of William Wall for his enteresse xs.  
 receyuyd of William Stoure for his enteresse xs.

receuyd of Richard Edmond for William haslop his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Robert Kyng for Thomas Manchestre his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Stowre for Giles Goulde his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John Robynson for Thomas Bromeherde his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Robert Bedyk for Richard Grey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Thomas Teversham for Richard Maxy his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Edmond Mannyng for Thomas Wodehous his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of the same Edmond for John Watson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Clerk for Thomas Colynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of herry Penhergard for John messenger his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Grene for John Bartram his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John Chamber for Richard Sybson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John Ball for John Wellys his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John hyll in full payment of vjs. viijd. for the Intresse of John Dercop  
 his apprentice iijs. iiijd.

2 Ric. III—  
 1 Hen. VII.

1485-6.

receuyd of Richard Edmond for his Interesse xs.  
 receuyd of John fiaux in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his Interesse vs.  
 receuyd of John Colard in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his Interesse  
 iijs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Stoure in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his Interesse  
 vs.  
 receuyd of Robert Boteler in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his interesse  
 iijs. iiijd.  
 receuyd of Robert Tyler in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his interesse  
 iijs. iiijd.  
 receuyd of William Walle in full payment of xs. for the arrerages of his Interesse  
 iijs. iiijd.  
 receuyd of Thomas Chamberleyn for Thomas Robertson his apprentice  
 vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Hertwell for John Cokkys his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Thomas Chamberleyn for John Hamond his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John Bulle for Robert Wylson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of William Wall for John howet his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of henry holden for William Gaynsford his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Thomas Pykmere for William Wolford his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of Nicholas Asser for cristofer lancastre his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John Spannesby for John vppislonde his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receuyd of John hyll for . . . . his apprentice vjs. viijd.



1486-7.

1-2 Hen. VII.

receyuyd of William Bromfeld for John Kente his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuyd of Nicholas hyll for John Clerke his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuyd of Richard Aleyn for William lyndesey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuyd of William fforest for Robert Tomson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuyd of Robert Kyng for Thomas Barton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuyd of William Stowre for Robert Pykhaver his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1489-90.

4-5 Hen. VII.

receyuid of Henry Howden for his Interesse xs.  
receyuid of William Vale for Richard Percyvale his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of William Store for John Cokket his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of John Chamber for Thomas harryson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of John Spannesby for William Salman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of the same John for Richard Maxi his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of Elyn Shawe for Edmond Goston his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of Edmond Mannyng for John Brabener his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyuid of Symond Newyngton for George Webbe his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1492-3.

7-8 Hen. VII.

receyved of William Ball for Thomas Stodard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of William Croket for John Toll his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Thomas Pykmere for Thomas Bromeherst his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of John Richardson for Edward Wrytt his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of William hartwell for William Corteman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Edmond Mannyng for Mighell louthe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Robert Kember for Thomas Dover his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of William Seton for Nicholas Eton his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of John Elteham for Christofer Rutter his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of John Rasshall for John Glyndell his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Robert Boteler for William Husey his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of the same Robert for Symond Houston his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Harry holden for Robert Skerthe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Stephyn Byrde for John harte his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of Thomas Chamberleyn for John Spenser his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of the same Thomas for Thomas Atkynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
receyved of John Spannsby for Richard haryngton his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1494-5.

9-10 Hen.  
VII.

recevyd of Dame Agneys Polton for her interesse into the brethered of the said  
Crafte xxvs. iiijd.  
recevyd of Master William Seton for John Butte his apprentice vjs. viijd.

receyvid of William Wall for Roger Glover his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Edmond Mannyng for Archebold Waules his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Pykmere for William Barnard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Bromeyerde for Water Apewyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of master william hartwell for William Parker his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Boys for Christofer Creston his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Boteler for William Wittingto his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Barton for John Byrcheley late apprentice of Mr. hartwell  
 vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Coltrop for harry Stodard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Boteler for John Bryg his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William Croket for William Symonson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of harry haymond for John Hardwyke his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Mr. Seton for lowke Barnard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Chamberleyn for John Boterell his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Richard Harryson for a fyne for Robert Reine his apprentice ijs.

11-12 Hen.  
 VII.

1496-7.

receyved of Richard Harryson for his interesse into the Bretherhed of the said  
 Crafte xs.  
 receyved of John Richardson for his interesse into the said Bretherhed xs.  
 receyved of mareyn Garet for his interesse into the said Bretherhed xxs.  
 receyved of Thomas lavyman for Thomas Nicolson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Croket for Stephyn Bayly his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John pomfret for John Bell his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas a Wodde for John Alevyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Stodard for Jeffrey Arnold his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Grene for John Nicholas his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of harry penarger for Robert Wylkynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of John Rasshall for Robert Warte his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of William Salman for William leyceter his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyved of Thomas Pykmere for Richard Burnop his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Duc for the laste payment of all his hole duytee xxd.

12-13 Hen.  
 VII.

1497-8.

receyved of John Messenger for his interesse into the said Crafte xs.  
 receyvid of Maren Garet for William Phillip his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William Wall for Roger Marche his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Harry Howden for John ffanclyffe his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Richardson for Robert Wyndeowte his apprentice vjs. viijd.



receyvid of Mr. Seton for Harry Tanner his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Mr. Newyngton for John Dove his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Hugh Rycheman for Richard Wilkynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Whytyngton for Thomas Danyell his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Gilyce Goulde for John Benyson his apprentice vjs. viijd.

1498-9.

13-14 Hen.  
VII.

receyvid of John Wylford for Thomas Coleman his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Cokks for Richard Came his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William Seton for Thomas Stable his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Calker for Edward Boyle his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Vyncent for John Haunse his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of William Heth for John Blewmer his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Nicholas Hyll for John Atkyns his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Edmond Mannyng for Robert Chambard his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Pykmere for Humphry Pykmere his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of the same Thomas for John Farby his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Bulle for Peter Plomer his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Robert Kember for Robert Leyster his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Richard Harryson for Thomas Atkynson his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of Thomas Chamberleyn for Robert Ratklyff his apprentice vjs. viijd.  
 receyvid of John Spannesby for Godfrey Martyn his apprentice vjs. viijd.

# LXVI. RECEIPTS OF QUARTERAGE FROM THE "BROTHERODE" OF THE CRAFT.

1442-3	-	56s.	1464-5	-	42s. 3d.	1478-9	-	44s.
1443-4	-	57s.	1465-6	-	43s.	1479-80	-	41s.
1444-5	-	57s.	1467-8	-	48s.	1480-1	-	37s. 6d.
1449-50	-	47s.	1468-9	-	43s.	1483-4	-	38s.
1450-1	-	52s.	1469-70	-	6s.	1484-5	-	34s. 4d.
1452-3	(illegible)		1470-1	-	50s.	1485-6	-	41s. 6d.
1453-4	-	45s.	1471-2	-	51s. 3d.	1486-7	-	38s. 6d.
1456-7	-	45s.	1473-4	-	43s.	1489-90	-	41s.
1458-9	-	48s.	1474-5	-	43s.	1492-3	-	33s.
1459-60	-	48s.	1475-6	-	41s.	1494-5	-	35s.
1461-2	-	47s.	1476-7	-	38s.	1496-7	-	43s.
1462-3	-	44s.	1477-8	-	37s.	1497-8	-	42s.

Receyved of men of the said Craft whiche been not of the clothyng of the same  
Craft for their quarterages.

1462-3	-	13s. 9d.	1465-6	-	19s. 3d.	1468-9	-	nil.
1464-5	-	11s.	1467-8	-	nil.			

The above return drops out of the accounts in 1469-70.











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